

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY233099
Inspection date	06/01/2011
Inspector	Lindsay Dobson
Type of setting	Childminder

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2011

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the childminding

The childminder has been registered since February 2003. She lives with her family in a semi-detached house in the Yeadon area of Leeds. Shops, schools and parks are within walking distance. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding purposes and consists of a lounge and dining kitchen. Bathroom facilities are available on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of four children under eight years. There are currently nine children on roll, of whom one is in the early years age range.

The childminder is a member of the National and local Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder provides a warm and friendly environment for all children and their families. Children enjoy a well-prepared play environment and have access to a good range of play resources and learning materials. Children are safe and well cared for in the childminder's welcoming and inclusive home. The childminder has implemented the required policies and procedures and has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She works successfully with parents and includes their views and opinions of her service in the self-evaluation process. Systems to self-evaluate the provision are ongoing and the childminder is using the Ofsted form as the basis for this. Consequently, she is maintaining continuous improvement and promoting the outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- update the record of risk assessment to include any assessments of risks for each individual outing and trip.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of safeguarding children. There are clear supporting documents and literature available should she have a concern about a child in her care. The childminder informs parents of her safeguarding responsibilities and gives them copies of her policies and procedures. Written risk assessments and daily safety checks ensure the suitability of indoor spaces, the garden, furniture, toys, and equipment. This, combined with close supervision, minimises any potential risks to children. Although the childminder is

very safety conscious when taking the children out, she has not yet updated her record of risk assessment to include each individual outing undertaken. All visitors to the home are required to sign the visitor's book.

The childminder promotes equality by providing a fully inclusive setting and enabling all children to participate in the activities. She is clear about individual children's stages of development and provides well for this. Children develop an understanding of difference through access to a sound range of resources promoting positive images of ethnicity and disability. The childminder's ability to ensure all children are able to participate fully in the planned activities and experiences ensures they are gaining the most from their time at the setting.

The childminder works closely in partnership with parents to ensure the care given to the children is consistent and appropriate. Parents receive detailed information about her provision including her policies and procedures. This enables them to be fully aware of the service she provides for both parents and the children. In addition, the childminder gathers a good range of information about each child before they start to ensure she is aware of their individual needs. Verbal feedback is given to parents to keep them well informed about how their child has spent their day. The childminder also provides parents with a written daily diary to further support the information shared. The childminder liaises with other settings providing for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage, which promotes inclusion and continuity of care for all children.

The childminder reflects on her practice and is evaluating her provision enabling her to identify her strengths and areas for development. She is using the Ofsted form as the basis for her evaluation and has identified additional training opportunities as a way to further enhance her service. The childminder has sought the views of the parents by asking them to complete questionnaires. Comments received are very positive and include 'the childminder provides fun and stimulating activities', 'she gives 100% commitment to the children' and 'the safety and cleanliness of the home is excellent'.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are relaxed and settled in the childminder's care. They are curious and interested when engaged with the play materials. Children are making good progress in their play and learning as demonstrated by detailed records. Observations are assessed to gauge the child's stage of development in each of the six areas of learning and the childminder actively seeks children's starting points to enable her to plan effectively from the onset of the care arrangements. The childminder provides resources to meet the individual needs and interests of the children cared for each day. She has a good range of resources and equipment stored in her living and dining room enabling children to make independent choices about their play.

The childminder provides the children with a good range of resources which promote children's development in all six areas of learning. They enjoy playing

with the musical instruments hitting the xylophone, blowing the recorder and shaking the shakers. Craft activities such as sticking, drawing and painting allow the children freedom to express themselves. They are happy to see their work displayed for them in the dining room. Children develop their understanding of information technology as they use the pretend till in the shop, pressing the keys, using the scanner and beginning to count the money. The childminder has provided children with an exact small world replica of her actual washing machine, which the children happily use to pretend to wash their dolls clothes. They love to press the buttons and see the machine turning and spinning the clothes and listen to the noises it makes. The childminder and children have planted and grown potatoes and broccoli. The childminder talks about how thrilled the children are to help to cook and then be able to eat their own produce. Children's physical development is actively promoted by the childminder. She provides opportunities for the children to play in the local park, visit the local play centre and play in the garden with a good range of resources. Indoors younger children enjoy dancing to music.

Children are supported to learn good basic hygiene skills through the use of effective hygiene routines. They are encouraged to wash their hands before meals and snacks and after going to the toilet, and are provided with individual flannels to prevent cross-infection. The childminder offers healthy and well balanced meals for all children, recording any allergies. Children have snacks of fruit and also have drinks of water available to them in their own cups throughout the day. They are offered nutritional main meals, which are home-cooked. The childminder ensures children are in a safe environment and teaches them how to stay safe by practising fire drills when at home and through learning appropriate road safety when out in the community. The childminder clearly understands the importance of the use of positive strategies to support children's behaviour. Reward stickers are given to children where appropriate and she actively encourages children to share, take turns and be kind to each other. This helps to promote a happy and fun environment for all children.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality
Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong
Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound
Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
--	---

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
---	-----

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
--	-----