

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY279803
Inspection date	24/05/2012
Inspector	Rachael Williams
Type of setting	Childminder

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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 registered in 2004. She lives with her partner and five children in Berry Hill, Gloucestershire. The childminder uses all areas of the premises to provide childcare. Children have access to the enclosed front garden for outdoor play. The family cares for three working dogs, a cat, two ferrets, a rabbit and chickens.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to provide care for no more than five children under eight years old at any one time; of these, two may be in the early years age range. At present, the childminder cares for two children, one of whom is in the early years age group. The childminder is registered to provide overnight care for two children aged from one year to under eight years.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children make satisfactory progress in their learning and development in relation to their starting points. However, the childminder does not fully implement assessment arrangements to monitor children's. Generally, there is an appropriate range of toys and resources to promote learning. The childminder promotes children's welfare sufficiently but she has not sought all necessary parental consents. The childminder develops caring relationships with the children and there is a regular exchange of information with parents. The childminder demonstrates satisfactory capacity for ongoing improvements through self-evaluation arrangements.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- request written parental permission at the time of the child's admission to the provision to seek emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 08/06/2012

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

- obtain written parental permission for children to take part in outings

- provide a range of resources that facilitate young babies play and exploration
- implement assessment arrangements that identify children's next steps in learning to effectively support children's progression.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder completes regular risk assessments of areas used by the children to maintain their safety. Appropriate safety measures are in place, such as cupboard locks to prevent children accessing hazardous substances in the kitchen. The childminder is aware of procedures to maintain records to share with parents to promote children's well-being, such as accident and medication records. The childminder has not obtained parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. This is a breach of a specific legal requirement. Children become aware of their own safety as they engage in regular fire drills that the childminder documents well. The childminder has a sound knowledge of Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures to follow if she has concerns about the welfare of a child.

There is a regular two-way flow of information with parents. For example, the childminder completes a daily journal to share children's achievements. Generally, parents receive appropriate information about the setting. However, the childminder has not obtained parental consent to escort children on outings. Parents comment positively on the service provided. They relish the 'homely atmosphere' and the 'open relationships'. The childminder has considered how she would share information with key agencies, health professionals and other early years settings to improve outcomes for children when the need arises.

The friendly and approachable childminder provides a generally safe and secure environment. Children have access to a suitable range of resources that are easily accessible. However, toys and resources to encourage young babies' play and exploration are limited. The childminder attends some required training, such as first aid and safeguarding, to improve her practice. The childminder has considered the service she provides and is aware of some possible improvements to the provision. The childminder uses some suitable systems to monitor the provision to bring about improvement, such as seeking advice from the local authority. The childminder has liaised with parents to improve the service offered, such as organising visits to the swimming pool for a young baby. The childminder demonstrates sufficient capacity to maintain continuous improvement.

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

Children make satisfactory progress in their learning through the close relationships made with the childminder. The childminder uses clear assessment arrangements, and invites contributions from parents to help children make

progress towards the early learning goals. However, the childminder has yet to implement these fully to identify next steps in learning. Young babies feel safe and secure as they receive warm, responsive care. For example, they show they are happy with gurgles and eye contact when the childminder holds them close after a feed. The childminder has worked in partnership with parents to develop well-established routines so that children show a strong sense of belonging. Positive and caring relationships are established and babies are content. The childminder discusses how she would explain boundaries and expectations clearly to children; therefore, encouraging their appropriate behaviour. The childminder listens well to babies' 'babble' and responds appropriately so they begin to develop their communication skills. They respond well to sound, such as turning their head when the childminder sings to them. Babies are able to affirm their identity as they begin to focus on themselves in a toy mirror. This helps children to develop skills for the future appropriately.

The childminder meets children's personal needs sufficiently well. For example, the childminder considers children's individual needs and appropriate hygiene arrangements when changing their nappies. Older children are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times and to dry them on individual towels. The childminder has established appropriate systems to maintain children's safety and health concerning access to the family's pets. For example, the dogs have a separate area in which to play which minded children cannot access. Children learn where food comes from. For example, children are able to collect eggs from the chickens and use them in their cooking.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

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