

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY306488
Inspection date	30/06/2009
Inspector	Rachael Williams
Type of setting	Childminder

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.

Description of the childminding

The childminder first registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and two children in Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset. The family care for two dogs. All areas of the family home are used for childminding except for the office and the attic conversion. There is a fully enclosed rear garden for outside play. The childminder escorts children to places of interest within the local environment.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time, of which no more than three may be in the early years age range. At present she has 12 children on roll; of which eight are in the early years age range. The childminder is registered to provide overnight care for one child aged between one and under eight years old.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and receives support from local early years advisers.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder has established close and caring relationships with the children and their parents hence, children's needs are routinely met and each child is respected as an individual. The children enjoy their time with the childminder and are involved in a range of learning opportunities, although systems to monitor children's progression in relation to their starting points are limited. The childminder is beginning to evaluate the provision of children's welfare, learning and development however, as yet, self-evaluation does not play an integral part of her practice leading to some documentation not being in place.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop arrangements to observe and assess each child's progress to identify learning priorities
- develop further systems to carry out a risk assessment for each type of outing
- develop appropriate systems to record behaviour incidents
- initiate regular fire evacuation drills where details are recorded in a fire log book
- develop effective systems to monitor the provision.

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

- ensure a daily record is maintained of the names of children looked after on the premises and their hours

08/07/2009

of attendance (this also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) (Organisation)

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are cared for by a friendly and approachable childminder who has a good knowledge of their individual interests and provides a warm and welcoming environment. Close and caring relationships have been established which ensures children are acknowledged and respected as individuals. Through daily discussions parents are well informed of the setting for instance, general information is given to parents regarding policies and procedures, and their child's achievements, such as the activities they engage in. The childminder discusses interests with other early years providers to ensure continuity in children's care and development.

The childminder ensures children are safeguarded as she has an appropriate policy and additional information regarding child protection issues. Comprehensive risk assessments of the premises enable children to be cared for in a safe and secure environment. The childminder has begun to develop the system to incorporate risk assessments for each type of outing, however, not all have been completed, such as visits to local attractions. The childminder has developed a fire evacuation procedure, however, this has not been practised with the children to ensure they become aware of their own safety. The childminder uses a daily diary to ensure ratios are maintained, however, the system to accurately record hours of children's attendance has not been fully implemented. This is a breach in specific legal requirements.

The childminder has attended appropriate training, such as a course to introduce the Early Years Foundation Stage, and receives support from early years advisers to promote care, learning and development. As yet, self-evaluation does not play an integral part within the childminding service, consequently, areas for improvement have not been fully identified, such as the importance of ensuring all documentation is in place.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder uses the local environment well to enhance experiences for the children, such as promoting social skills through attendance at a local toddler group. Children move freely and independently around the homely environment making choices about their play. Children are clear on boundaries and expectations hence, behaviour is good. The childminder uses appropriate strategies to manage behaviour, such as clear explanations, one-to-one support and time-out which is discussed with parents. However, the childminder does not record incidents to monitor children's behaviour and to adapt her practice. The childminder provides an appropriate range of toys and resources which are regularly rotated to provide additional learning opportunities. Children engage in a range of activities that provide a balanced range of learning experiences for instance, children enjoy 'shopping' activities where they are introduced to new vocabulary and their

communication skills are enhanced. For example, one child is confident to respond to the childminder telling her the purpose of their trip to the dinosaur village. Children are actively involved in initiating their own play, however, the childminder had yet to establish a system to make observations and assessments of the children in order to show children's progression towards the early learning goals and to highlight their learning priorities.

Children are introduced to hygienic practices for instance, they use wet wipes to clean their hands before eating. When washing their hands after using the toilet, the children have a choice of soap and dry their hands on paper towels to ensure cross infection is minimised. The childminder provides children with a healthy balance of nutritional food; one child points out that her favourite is pasta and meat balls. Children remain hydrated as drinks are replenished and are easily accessible during the day. Children are cared for appropriately should an accident occur as the childminder has appropriate paediatric first aid training. She has established an appropriate system to record accidents to ensure children's ongoing well-being. Appropriate consent is obtained from parents for instance, to transport children on outings, which ensures continuity in children's care. The childminder is aware of obtaining appropriate consent for medication and recording administered medication; at present, she has not had the need to put this system in place.

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

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	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:

Not Met (with actions)

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

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept) 08/07/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept) 08/07/2009