

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY365018
Inspection date	19/06/2012
Inspector	Rachel Wyatt
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 was registered in 2008. She lives with her husband who is her assistant and her two children aged seven and 10 years. They live in the Solihull area of the West Midlands. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house and an upstairs bedroom and bathroom are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder is able to take children to and collect them from a local school, pre-school and nursery.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. When working with an assistant she may care for no more than six children under eight years, all of whom may be in the early years age range. She also offers care to children aged over five to 14 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She has CACHE Level 3 in children's care, learning and development and is currently working towards a Foundation Degree in early years.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder does not have effective systems to ensure she can drive and sustain improvements. Lack of monitoring and evaluation of her procedures mean that previous inspection recommendations have not been addressed and she has not identified or promptly tackled other priorities for improvement. As a result, several welfare requirements have not been met, which potentially compromises children's health and welfare. In other respects, children enjoy and achieve well, confidently responding to the varied, rewarding activities and experiences provided by the childminder. In particular, her successful partnerships with parents, other providers and different agencies ensure consistency and well-targeted support for each child.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- maintain a current paediatric first aid certificate at all times (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 03/07/2012

- ensure that written parental permission to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment is requested for every child (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 03/07/2012
- ensure parents are informed of accidents to their child (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 03/07/2012
- ensure a risk assessment is conducted annually (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 03/07/2012
- display the certificate of registration (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register). 03/07/2012

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- improve the organisation of the setting to include ongoing effective procedures to evaluate the provision and implement areas for improvement.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are not adequately safeguarded because the childminder has failed to meet several Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements. She has not maintained a current first aid qualification and she has not obtained every parent's written consent to her seeking any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment for their child. Other inconsistencies in her record keeping mean it is not always clear whether parents have been informed about children's accidents. As result, the childminder is not adequately prepared to promote children's well-being in the event of a medical emergency, or an accident or if a child becomes unwell. Two other welfare requirements are also not met. The childminder's current certificate of registration is not displayed, preventing parents from being fully informed about how she is registered. The childminder has conducted a risk assessment of her premises, but has not reviewed this within required timescales so that children's safety is potentially affected. In other respects, she has devised suitable safeguarding procedures which she follows, for example, in order to minimise the risks of any inappropriate access to children and to promptly address any concerns she has about vulnerable children. She makes sure parents know about her procedures including her role to protect children from harm.

Although, the childminder successfully develops her own knowledge, skills and qualifications and creates an inviting inclusive environment for children, her overall effectiveness in driving improvement is limited. She does not effectively monitor and evaluate her provision so that any priorities for improvement and gaps in procedures are identified and promptly addressed. This includes not securely following up previous inspection recommendations relating to maintaining a current paediatric first aid qualification and seeking parents' agreements regarding dealing with medical emergencies. As a result, the outcomes for children's health are inadequate.

Other aspects of the childminder's leadership and management are good. She is

proactive about getting to know each child and their family. She supports each child well and creates an inviting, well-resourced environment where children can help themselves to toys and develop their own ideas for play. She makes effective use of local community activities and venues, such as, parks, various toddler activities and visits to National Trust properties to extend children's socialising and learning. In particular, she has good relationships with parents and confidently works with other providers and agencies. As a result, parents feel involved in and well-informed about their children's activities, routines and achievements. Those children who attend other settings have consistency because the childminder liaises with the providers and she confidently works with other agencies to give tailored support for children with specific care/and or learning needs.

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

Children make good progress and develop appropriate skills for the future. They enjoy being with the childminder, settle quickly and confidently choose what they want to play with. The childminder interacts well with babies and children, encouraging their cooperative and independent play. They are often purposeful and imaginative, for instance enjoying playing together on physical apparatus or acting out scenarios during small world and role play. They relish the varied and interesting activities she plans for them at home and at other venues. The childminder caters for each child's interests and next steps, and ensures parents' views about their children's learning and development are encouraged and followed up. Her close links with other providers ensures smooth transitions for children when they go to another setting or start full-time education. The childminder promptly identifies where children need additional help and works well with parents, other providers and different agencies to cater for their specific needs.

Children have a positive sense of belonging. They know what is expected of them and behave well. For instance they take off their shoes when they come into the house and help to hang up their coats. They behave safely and sensibly when travelling by car or out walking, and show an increasingly awareness of each others' needs, responding to the childminder's encouragement to take turns and share. Children mix and socialise well. For example, babies confidently join in activities with their older peers. Children communicate well and the childminder is alert to any delay in their speaking and/or listening. She ably supports those children with communication difficulties, for example, by using visual prompts and signing. Children count with increasing accuracy and enjoy practical problem solving, for instance during puzzles and games. On outings they go on nature trails, observe and handle different animals or look for insects and try bark rubbings. They learn about the wider world through appropriate activities linked to celebrations such as the Queen's Jubilee and festivals such as Eid. They make and decorate cakes for their families at Christmas and regularly take part in a range of local community activities providing them with valuable opportunities to socialise and mix with other children.

Although, the childminder effectively manages many aspects of children's care,

including their often complex health needs, weaknesses identified elsewhere in the report potentially put children's health at risk. However, she does consistently foster children's awareness of aspects of a healthy lifestyle. They know that it is important to wash their hands properly, they are active, enjoy being outdoors, and readily make healthy choices about what to eat and drink. Children are kept safe. They feel emotionally secure in the childminder's company, appreciating her encouragement and reassurance. They behave safely and sensibly, for instance when travelling by car or during walks. They learn more about safety during discussions and practise evacuation drills.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	4
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	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	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	4
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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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 (Welfare of the children being cared for) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 03/07/2012
- undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment at least once in each calendar year (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 03/07/2012
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Certificate of registration) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register). 03/07/2012

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 compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Welfare of the children being cared for) 03/07/2012
- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) 03/07/2012
- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Certificate of registration). 03/07/2012