

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY366492
Inspection date	17/01/2011
Inspector	Dianne Sadler
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 2007. She lives with her husband and four children aged three, five, 11 and 14 in Warwickshire. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding purposes as well as the bathroom and two bedrooms on the first floor. There is a garden available for outdoor play. The childminder takes and collects children from local schools and pre-schools.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time. The childminder is currently caring for five children in total, three of whom are in the early years age group. The childminder is also registered to provide overnight care for one child under eight years. This provision is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are cared for safely in an inclusive environment according to their individual needs. They make good progress in their learning and enjoy close relationships with adults and each other. The childminder develops strong relationships with parents and other educators. She has good systems in place to evaluate the setting to ensure all outcomes for children are met and continue to be improved upon.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further improve systems to assess children's learning towards all the early learning goals.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded well. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of child protection issues and has developed a well written safeguarding policy and procedures which are shared with parents. She has plans to attend training in this area to update her knowledge. Clear policies, procedures and record keeping systems ensure children are well protected. Risk assessments are completed to keep children safe both within the home and when outdoors on outings to places such as the country park and local walks.

The childminder has a good awareness of children's individual needs and interests and provides a warm and welcoming environment which fosters their sense of well being. She makes effective use of space and provides children with a stimulating

play room and good quality resources which they can access easily. This promotes their independence and enjoyment. Children's artwork and photographs are displayed well on the walls of the play room detailing the most recent planned themes such as 'Winter' and 'Harvest festival'. This promotes their good self-esteem. The childminder gathers information on different religious events and ensures resources show positive images of diversity. For example, children enjoy watching a DVD showing how people celebrate different festivals. This promotes children's awareness of the wider world.

The childminder works closely with parents and other providers and offers an inclusive service to ensure each child gets the support they need to make good progress. She provides parents with good quality information about the setting and the Early Years Foundation Stage. Parents of younger children benefit from a diary which they take home and are encouraged to record their comments. This helps to maintain a two-way flow of information between home and the setting. In addition, the childminder gives all parents questionnaires to complete in which they detail complete satisfaction with the service provided. They comment on the wide range of activities and foods their children enjoy and are happy with the care their children receive.

The childminder is committed to improving all the outcomes for children through her good practice. She has attended training including early years practice and welfare studies and is seeking further training in areas such as food hygiene. The childminder has developed effective systems to monitor and evaluate her service and has used a self-evaluation document well to reflect on her strengths and areas for improvement.

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

All children are learning about a healthy lifestyle and how to keep themselves safe through well-planned activities and everyday experiences. For instance, before snack time they wash their hands using liquid soap and dry their hands using a towel brought in from home. At this time they sit safely at the table and select items from the fruit bowl such as bananas and apples to eat. Whilst preparing the snack the childminder asks children to consider why they need to sit still on their chairs. They confidently reply 'Because we may fall off and bump our head!'

The childminder plans activities around seasons, celebrations and festivals that occur throughout the year. She includes children's particular interests and experiences from home. For instance, recently planned activities include learning about buses because a child showed a particular interest. The childminder observes children's progress and has made tentative steps to record the observations in children's individual 'Learning journals' and 'Look, listen and note books'. However, she is not using the information to assess children's learning towards all the early learning goals which may compromise the progress they make.

Children are developing good skills for the future. They are learning to respect each other and particularly benefit from developing strong relationships with other

children of different ages. The rules and boundaries are made clear and they are supported by the childminder to share and take turns. This ensures children are learning to consider the needs of others. Children are also learning to communicate well and use language for thinking. For instance, older children confidently discuss the weather at snack-time and decide it is foggy, whilst younger children, when given an apple to eat, exclaim that it is 'slippy!'

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
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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

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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:

- ensure the written complaints policy details the procedure for informing the complainant of the outcome of the complaint, within 28 days of the complaint being made (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 31/01/2011

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:

- ensure the written complaints policy details the procedure for informing the complainant of the outcome of the complaint, within 28 days of the complaint being made (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 31/01/2011