

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY370276
Inspection date	02/10/2008
Inspector	Jeanne Lesley Walsh
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 report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

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 has been registered since 2008. She lives with her partner and five children aged one, seven, nine, 15 and 16 years old. The family have a pet dog. They live in the Romiley area of Stockport, close to shops, parks and the library. The setting is easily accessible to children and the whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. The rear garden is available for outdoor play. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and she gains support from the local authority.

The childminder is registered to care for a total of four children at any one time under the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. She is also registered on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register to enable her to care for older children. There are currently two children on roll.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder has a good working knowledge of each child she minds. She welcomes and values them as individuals and provides well for their specific care needs. The children are making satisfactory progress in their learning and development. The childminder recognises that her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and systems for planning, are areas for development in order to bring about continuous improvement. She has established a very positive partnership with parents to help to achieve a consistent approach to children's care.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop a clear knowledge and understanding of the Early Learning Goals
- develop planning systems to include activities that meet the individual needs of the children and link to the six learning areas.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder knows the children very well. She provides good care to ensure that their individual needs are appropriately met. Children are safeguarded in the setting, as regular risk assessments help to ensure a safe environment. The childminder also clearly understands her role with regard to child protection. She is fully aware of the procedures to follow should concerns arise. She recognises that her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the six areas of learning is limited. However, she demonstrates a willingness to develop her awareness through training, in order to promote improvement for children. She has established strong links and good communication with parents, to encourage consistency and progression for children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The children are cared for in a clean and homely environment. Their individual needs are discussed with parents and the childminder provides care accordingly. Documentation is up to date and records, policies and procedures are shared with parents and include a written risk assessment. These underpin the safe care and management of the children and the provision.

The childminder knows the children well and strives to provide appropriately for their specific requirements. Their individual dietary needs are discussed with parents and catered for accordingly. The childminder tries to provide a variety of healthy foods. Most days they call at the local green grocers where they love to choose their own piece of fruit, so they are beginning to learn about healthy eating. They are becoming aware of their local community as they often visit the library, go swimming or attend children's activity groups. During their outings the children are also beginning to learn about personal safety measures as they are starting to become aware of road safety.

The children are developing their communication skills through singing and stories. They have access to a range of story books and they love the feely texture books. They are starting to develop good concentration skills and show an interest in what they do. The children are fascinated with trains, following a recent train ride. They line the toy engines up and try to build the track. They are learning to play together as they press the buttons to listen to the sounds made by the activity toys. The childminder presents herself as a good role model for the children and the children respond to her positive approach. They are learning to behave well and are becoming aware of other peoples feelings as they are encouraged to share and take turns.

The children enjoy a balance of child and adult initiated activities. They are well supported by the childminder and have easy access to a range of resources, allowing them to make independent choices of what they wish to do. Their achievements are consistently praised and encouraged by the childminder, which helps to build their confidence and boosts their self-esteem. However, the childminder is aware that she has limited knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There is no system for planning and assessment or for linking activities into the six learning areas. The childminder helps the children to progress but cannot demonstrate that the breadth, depth and consistency of each of the learning areas are sufficiently covered.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

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?	Satisfactory
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Satisfactory

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

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

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
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.