

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY385318
Inspection date	15/06/2009
Inspector	Dawn Lumb
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 was registered in 2008. She lives with her husband and 14 month old baby in Pontefract, West Yorkshire. The ground floor of the home is used for childminding purposes and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

There are two places for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and three places for older children. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. At present she is caring for one child in the early years age group. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The childminder holds a recognised Level 3 N.N.E.B. childcare qualification and the family have a pet dog.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the provision is satisfactory. Children are provided with a warm and caring environment. Their individual needs are valued and met through the childminder's clear knowledge of the children in her care. Children enjoy learning through a range of play opportunities and activities which are appropriate to their age and stage of development, although systems to support planning, observation and assessments of children's learning, progress and achievements are not fully developed. Children are kept safe and secure through the childminder's risk assessments. The childminder works well with parents and is beginning to identify links to pursue with other providers to promote better quality care and education. Practice is developing well and the childminder informally evaluates her provision, recognising the need for continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop planning, observation and assessment to promote children's learning across all areas
- consider ways to reflect more actively on practice to clearly identify the setting's strengths and areas for development that will further improve the quality of the provision for all children.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has made an enthusiastic start to her childminding. All documentation, including a range of well organised written policies and procedures promote children's health, safety and welfare and ensure children's individual needs are met. The childminder ensures children's safety through completing written risk assessments which cover all areas of her provision as well as actions to

manage or eliminate risks. The childminder has a sound understanding of her role and responsibilities in keeping children safeguarded. The childminder has a basic understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. She is aware of the new self-evaluation systems and has a training plan in place that identifies her development needs and is committed to improving her skills through training.

Parents receive good information about the childminder's provision and their child's care, learning and development. They have access to copies of all policies, procedures and written records. Daily chats and records provide clear information about children's activities, routines and their child's development and achievements. New children quickly settle in to the environment and warm caring relationships are fostered. Appropriate routines, such as following children's own sleep patterns support children's individual needs and ensure children feel settled and secure.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder promotes children's independence by ensuring a basic range of resources which are rotated and accessible to them. They are encouraged to have free choice in their play. Children are sensitively assisted and supported to make choices. For example, they bake Pizzas and choose from a selection of toppings. Children receive positive praise and encouragement in their play which promotes self-esteem and confidence. Available resources are of good quality and varied. Children benefit from appropriate interaction and support as they play with cars, car mats and drawing mats. They talk about numbers and begin to identify them on the mat. Children participate in drawing activities, such as a colouring and drawing mat they begin to develop hand control. They gain an awareness of technology as they explore interactive toys.

Children enjoy easy access to the garden to engage in outdoor activities and use the available equipment to develop their physical skills and coordination. The childminder plans and uses children's interests to motivate and stimulate the children into enjoying their activities and learning.

Children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe is well promoted through the following of house rules, appropriate discussion and simple explanation. For example, the childminder explains about how to use the shale safely. Children begin to understand the importance of good personal hygiene as they follow hygiene routines. Their health is promoted through the childminder's enthusiasm in training and developing her knowledge of healthy food, which supports her provision of healthy balanced meals. Effective records and written procedures ensure children's welfare is promoted.

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?	3
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?	3
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?	3
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:	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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