

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY392463
Inspection date	07/12/2009
Inspector	Karen Eunice Millerchip
Type of setting	Childminder

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It rates council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 08456 404040, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

Royal Exchange Buildings
St Ann's Square
Manchester
M2 7LA

T: 08456 404040
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2009

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 2009. She works with another registered childminder and minds from her co-minder's house in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. The co-minder's husband and two children aged 13 and nine years live at the property. There are shops and schools within easy walking distance. The majority of the house, excluding the main bedroom, is used for minding and this includes a downstairs toilet. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder may provide care for six children at any one time, of whom three may be within the early years age group. She currently has two children on roll, both within the early years age range. Whilst working with a co-childminder she may care for seven children, of whom five may be in the early years age group. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder holds a Level 2 childcare qualification and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder has not yet developed a clear understanding of all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which means children's welfare, learning and development is not sufficiently supported. She provides a welcoming, inclusive environment where children settle well. However, children are not fully safeguarded as some specific legal requirements are not met. Risk assessments are insufficient in promoting children's well-being. The childminder offers a friendly service for parents and is beginning to develop links with other early years settings. She has completed an early years qualification at Level 2 but has not yet attended the required training nor does she hold a current first aid certificate. There are no established systems of self-evaluation to identify areas for continuous improvement in order to support better outcomes for children.

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:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • ensure a current paediatric first aid certificate is maintained at all times (Suitable people) | 31/01/2010 |
| • provide evidence of attendance at a relevant training | 30/12/2009 |

- course, for example, Introduction to Childminding Practice (Suitable people)
- provide evidence of public liability insurance at the setting address (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 30/12/2009
- conduct a risk assessment that covers anything with which a child may come into contact and review it regularly, at least once a year or more frequently where the need arises and record when and by whom they have been checked (Suitable premises, environment and equipment (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 30/12/2009
- undertake sensitive observational assessments in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs (Organisation) 30/12/2009
- plan and provide experiences which are appropriate to each child's stage of development as they progress towards the early learning goals (Organisation). 30/12/2009

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop an effective system for evaluating the early years provision in order to maintain continuous improvement
- expand on ways that enable parents to regularly review their child's progress and contribute to their child's learning and development.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has effective procedures in place to ensure all adults in the household are suitable to be around children and that co-minders are suitable. Although children are cared for in a generally safe environment there are no effective systems for the monitoring and reviewing of risks which also cover all aspects of the children's day, including outings and daily visits to school and local community groups. The childminder is aware of all the required policies and procedures that need to be in place to support the management of her childminding practice and to meet the needs of the children. However, the complaints procedure does not contain sufficient details nor is the public liability insurance specific to the setting address. Therefore, children's welfare is not fully promoted.

The childminder offers settling-in sessions and develops a friendly partnership with parents, sharing daily verbal and written information about the children's day and information about her childminding service on an informal basis. There is a daily exchange of information about the children's routine and welfare needs but insufficient information about their learning and development. This means parents are not able to regularly review their child's progress or contribute to their child's learning and development. A daily journal containing descriptions of the daily routine, photographs of children's daily experiences and activities is shared with

parents and they are invited to comment. Parents have made positive comments with regard to the information contained and the reassurance given by photographs of their child having fun. The childminder is aware of the benefits of making links with other early years settings and demonstrated ways in which she can do this.

Children are happy and settled in the childminding environment and engage well with the childminder and co-minder. The childminder was unable to confirm that she has attended the required training since registration and does not hold a current first aid certificate, although a training date has been identified and the co-minder has an in-date certificate and is always present to support children's health and well-being. She displays a willingness to attend other courses to support her continuous development. However, she does not yet have a sufficient understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage to be able to properly reflect on her practice or implement systems to do this.

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

All children are valued and treated with equal concern and any specific requirements, such as dietary requirements or preferences are respected. Children's health benefits from regular outdoor play. They frequently go out for a walk and visit community groups where they have opportunities to use large apparatus, thereby, developing an understanding of the importance of exercise and fresh air. They begin to learn about healthy eating as they are offered fruit and raisins at snack time. Parents provide lunches and the childminder supports children to develop independence at mealtimes. Children develop sound hygiene practices, routinely supported in cleaning hands with baby wipes before eating and after using the toilet. Clear nappy changing procedures are followed, limiting the risk of cross-infection. Children are developing an awareness of their own safety as they listen to the childminder's reminders about sitting down to eat and drink and safe use of toys within the environment.

Children are not making sufficient progress in their learning and development as the childminder does not yet have a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She plans different experiences each day in line with each child's interests. However, the lack of information gained via observations inhibits planning for individual children's stage of development towards the early learning goals and restricts the progress children can make. Children have an easy relationship with the childminder and are happy and secure in her care. They are confident to approach her for comfort and reassurance during the course of the day.

Although an attractive playroom has been created in the conservatory children's free choice is restricted as a stair gate prevents freedom to move independently from the lounge into the conservatory. The childminder provides a specific activity, such as books and puzzles and rotates toys and resources to maintain the child's interest and enjoyment. The childminder responds to children's questions as they successfully complete 'pop-in' jigsaws that activate sounds, play with the train

track and look at books, developing their understanding of the wider world. Opportunities for creative play are provided and children enjoy crayoning, painting and messy play.

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

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
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	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
--	---

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	4
The extent to which children feel safe	4
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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:

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:

- develop a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (Procedures for dealing with complaints) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register section of the report) 30/12/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) 30/12/2009

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 (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) 30/12/2009
- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register section of the report (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 30/12/2009