

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY405676
Inspection date	20/10/2010
Inspector	Margaret Moffat

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 2010. She lives with her husband and three children aged nine, seven and six years in Loudwater, Buckinghamshire. The childminder uses the whole of the ground floor of the house for childminding with sleeping facilities available on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder makes use of local facilities such as parks and toddler groups. The childminder collects children from local schools. The family have some stick insects and a guinea pig.

The childminder may care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding one child in this age group and two older school age children. The childminder also cares for a relative. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an inclusive environment where their individual needs are met and catered for. The childminder is aware of how children learn and has systems in place to support them. Children are settling in well as the childminder is providing them with the support they need. The childminder is in breach of regulations and has not evaluated her setting to fully promote the outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure written parental permission is in place for the seeking of any necessary medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 22/11/2010
- ensure record of risk assessment clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident is in place (Documentation) 22/11/2010

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

- obtain written parental permission for children to take part on outings
- Implement a self-evaluation system, to monitor the provision and outcomes

for children.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is aware of her duty to safeguard and protect the children in her care. She demonstrates an understanding of the signs and symptoms which would alert her to have causes for concern and she has relevant documentation in place to follow if needed.

Children play in a secure and safe environment where the childminder has taken precautions to ensure safety such as daily visual checks and stair gates prevent unwanted access to the kitchen. However, the record of risk assessment is very basic and does not adequately show all risks, when they were carried out, by whom or date of review. This is a breach of regulation.

Children have access to a suitable range of age appropriate toys and resources, which the childminder rotates on a regular basis. Toys for older children are kept out of reach as they may contain small pieces which younger children may put in their mouths. The childminder shows an awareness of inclusion and how to promote this within her setting. She is aware of the need to work with other professionals and outside agencies in the care learning and development of the children; however no children are currently attending other places.

At the time of inspection the childminder had been minding for a short time and had not yet evaluated her setting. She is aware parents are happy with the provision and feels her areas for improvements are around her paperwork. She sees her main strength as caring and supporting the children helping them to learn. This indicates a capacity for continued improvement.

Most relevant information has been collected from the parents and recorded. However, the childminder does not have permission to seek emergency medical treatment or advice for the children and this is a breach of regulations. Although parents are aware children go on outings and provide car seats for the children to be travel in the car, the childminder does not have permission to do this. The childminder keeps a daily diary for the children which is shared with parents and also provides them with opportunities to discuss their children at the beginning and end of the day. This ensures they are up to date with their children's progress.

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

The childminder has recently started childminding and has effective systems in place to help her observe and assess children's on-going development. She demonstrates knowledge of all areas of learning and the activities she would provide to ensure children make progress. She follows young children's routines and ensures their individual needs are met. She is becoming aware of children's responses which enable her to deal with their requests as they communicate their

needs to her. For example when they are hungry or tired.

The children are comfortable and secure in the childminder's care and they respond to her voice when she talks to them as they giggle or look in her direction. She consistently talks to the children about what she is doing further promoting their communication skills. Children have access to fresh air on a daily basis as they go for walks and pick up children from school. Children's physical development is promoted as they lie underneath the baby gym and wriggle, kick their legs and wave their hands as they try to reach up for the toys. Through discussion she demonstrates an understanding of behaviour management strategies taking into account the maturity of the individual children. She has relevant procedures in place which are shared with parents. The childminder shows the children warmth and kindness as she holds them when feeding. This helps them to feel a sense of belonging. Children play with a range of age appropriate toys and resources which are in good condition and are safe for them to use.

The childminder has effective systems in place to promote appropriate hygiene routines and prevent the risk of cross infection such as nappy changing routines including disposing of the nappy and hand washing. Meals and snacks are provided by parents and the childminder ensures these are stored in the fridge if required. She prepares these in accordance with the children's needs. Drinks are readily available for the children and the childminder encourages them to have drinks throughout the day.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
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	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	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
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

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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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