

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY365618
Inspection date	09/12/2008
Inspector	Jacqueline Munden
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 2007. She lives with her husband and their two children in Winchester, Hampshire. All areas of the home are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The premises is easily accessible with toilet facilities available on the first floor. The childminder is registered on both the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare register. She is registered to care for a total of four children at any one time. There are currently four children on roll. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are welcomed into a warm, family environment where they are all valued and included. Their welfare and learning are promoted successfully with some weaknesses in ensuring their safety. The childminder works in close partnership with parents and takes the time to get to know each child, enabling her to meet their individual needs. The childminder has a positive attitude to improving her practice and is able to identify areas which need developing further.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further improve children's safety by making the fire blanket accessible in the kitchen, the garage inaccessible and obtain parental permission to take photographs.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Since registration the childminder has developed effective systems to ensure children's learning and welfare are promoted well. The home is clean and suitable hygiene routines are promoted. Children are generally well safeguarded as the childminder has a good understanding of protecting children; most hazards have been identified and measures taken to deal with them. The childminder organises her time and home well enabling her to devote her time to supporting children in their play and learning. The childminder keeps up to date with current guidance; she has booked to attend training to further develop her good understanding of promoting children's learning and development.

The childminder recognises the importance of forging strong partnerships with parents. They are well informed about their children's general well-being and receive written and verbal information about their progress, daily activities, diet and sleep routines. Parents report they are very happy with the care their children receive. They are provided with a good range of detailed policies and procedures

that inform them of the childminder's provision. The childminder evaluates her own practices and seeks comments from parents to ensure all children are well cared for. However, written parental consent is not obtained prior to taking photographs of children used in their development folders. She understands the benefits of forming links with other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage to provide continuity of care for children who attend more than one setting although she has not had to do so yet.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are very happy and are actively involved in their play. They quickly settle due to the childminder's calm and nurturing approach. She demonstrates a secure understanding of each child's developing needs and maintains good records of written observations and photographs that are shared with parents. The childminder notes their starting points and achievements and assesses their progress towards the early learning goals. She has a clear understanding of how to help children learn and sets suitable targets to ensure their ongoing progress. Children take part in a wide range of activities and use appropriate resources which they enjoy and enable them to be included. For example, young children enjoy using chunky crayons they can easily grip and safety scissors when making Christmas cards. Children develop confidence and independence as they make choices of what to play with from the easily accessible play equipment and books. They move around freely as they play and make a 'cosy corner' den using blanket in which they sit together and talk. The childminder ensures babies are included where possible and moves the high chair to ensure they can be involved at the table. The childminder recognises the benefits of regular exercise and ensures they have opportunities to develop physical skills in the well equipped garden and on visits to the park. Children learn to share and play together due to the kind and consistent approach of the childminder who sets clear boundaries of acceptable behaviour.

Children play an active role in learning to keep themselves safe. They are reminded to sit on chairs properly and take part in practising the emergency evacuation procedure. Children enjoy the healthy meals and snacks that are generally provided by the childminder and drinks are always available.

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?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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.