

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY355461
Inspection date	23/09/2008
Inspector	Felicity Gaff
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 was registered in 2007. She lives with her partner and three children in Crawley, West Sussex. The whole house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family has a hamster. The childminder is registered to care for five children at any one time and is currently minding three children who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage(EYFS), all of whom attend on a part-time basis. The provision is also registered on the Childcare Register. Children in both age ranges share the same facilities. The childminder attends carer and toddler groups and takes children on a variety of outings and visits.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder makes good provision for children in the EYFS. She uses the knowledge and skills gained from the professional training she undertakes, to enhance the service she offers to children and their families. She offers a very well equipped environment, which is thoughtfully organised to meet the developmental needs of children of different ages and interests. She monitors children's progress in detail and shares her records with their parents to keep them fully informed. She reviews all aspects of her provision regularly to ensure all children are fully included.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- improve the written records of the risk assessments carried out on the premises and for outings

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

- seek written parental authorisation for any emergency medical advice or treatment in the future (Safeguarding and welfare)

30/09/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's commitment to ongoing professional training is reflected in her ability to review and develop the quality of the service she offers. She regularly evaluates her written policies and procedures, consults with parents, and sensitively responds to the individual needs of the children for whom she cares. She considers how she can best modify the organisation of her provision to ensure children with additional needs can participate fully. The childminder maintains clear policies and procedures to support children's welfare, although some written records are incomplete. She creates positive relationships with parents and other

carers. Parents receive detailed written information about the setting and the childminder works closely with them to find out what children know and can do when they first attend. She maintains comprehensive diaries containing photographic and written information about all aspects of children's progress and the care they receive. Consequently, parents are fully informed about and involved in all aspects of their children's development and learning. The childminder has a very clear understanding of her responsibility for safeguarding children and follows effective policies and procedures to protect them from harm or abuse.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are confident and self assured; they form close relationships with the childminder and thoroughly enjoy their time in her care. They make very good progress in all areas of learning because the childminder uses her observations of what they do and achieve in order to plan a rich variety of first hand learning experiences. Children are eager to participate in the available activities and use their excellent language skills to describe what they do. They delight in sharing the detailed photographic records of their activities to discuss their past activities and outings. Children develop their independence as they choose from an extensive range of very good quality toys and play resources, which are selected to support all areas of learning. The childminder plays alongside the children to support their learning and development. For example, while playing with trains she encourages children to set and solve their own problems, enabling them to gain self-confidence and become independent learners.

Play materials are attractively displayed and carefully organised to allow younger children to be protected from unsuitable items while they explore. The childminder assesses risks for all outings and activities and takes appropriate action to minimise them, although written records of risk assessments lack detail. Children begin to learn to follow a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy nourishing meals and have daily opportunities for outdoor play using a good range of play apparatus selected to challenge children of different ages and abilities. The childminder maintains most of the records required to support children's welfare, but has not sought authorisation for emergency medical advice or treatment as required by the EYFS. The good relationships which the childminder forges with parents enable them to work together to deal effectively with any unwanted behaviour. As a result, children play harmoniously together and behave very well.

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

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Good
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?	Good
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?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
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?	Good

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

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.