Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	114795
Inspection date	25/11/2008
Inspector	Chris Mackinnon
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 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 2000. The childminder lives with her husband and two school age children, in the Ifield area of Crawley, West Sussex. The house is easily accessible and the whole of the property is used for childminding, with the main care provided in the lounge-dining room. Children have access to an enclosed garden for outdoor activities. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of five children may attend at any one time. The childminder currently has 10 children on roll, with six in the early years age range. The childminder makes regular outings to pre-schools, toddler groups and children's play areas.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides outstanding care and learning for children, with individual children's welfare needs and development strongly supported. The childminder's home is safe and secure and children have an excellent and well organised programme of learning, based on many highly stimulating and well planned activities. The childminder has a confident and highly effective awareness of inclusive practice and has established strong links with parents to support children's progress. The childminder is also highly successful in evaluating the organisation of her childcare, demonstrating a consistent and professional approach to continuous improvement. The childminder is a skilled carer and teacher, and is dedicated to providing high quality childcare for children and parents.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- improve the organisation of the accident and medication records
- develop the range of resources and materials available to reflect diversity within the children's learning environment

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder provides extremely well planned learning activities to support children's development and enjoyment. She has produced a highly detailed and comprehensive self evaluation document that demonstrates her consistent reflective practice and a significant commitment to continuous improvement. The childminder's partnership with parents is also highly organised, with parents benefiting from much clear information on children's healthy growth and progress. Parents are also well informed about the learning themes and activities provided, and effectively encouraged to contribute to their children's learning. The

childminder's inclusive practice is also highly organised and well established, with much detail gathered on individual children's care, healthy development and learning needs. A particular strength within the childminder's practice is her attention to detail with individual children's written learning plans. Children are effectively and strongly safeguarded within the setting and the childminder has a highly developed awareness of the need to keep children safe and secure at all times. A well organised range of safety measures are also in place within the childminder's home, with continuous risk assessments and regular safety checks undertaken, to ensure children play safely.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's learning development within the setting is highly effective in meeting children's development needs, and is judged as outstanding. The childminder provides a challenging and highly planned programme of activities that includes seasonal learning themes and expressive and imaginative activities. The inclusion of the early learning goals within the planning is also excellent, with all six learning areas fully included and explored both within the learning programme and within individual children's learning assessment. The childminder's range of learning activities and confidence with exploring the learning goals is also highly developed. Children enjoy their activities greatly and are encouraged to initiate play and contribute their own ideas. The childminder is also highly attentive to individual children's learning needs, taking care to ensure all children have a planned range of learning opportunities, to fully extend their learning development. A highly organised system is also in place to observe and assess children's learning. The childminder consistently gathers and records information to plan the next steps for her children. The childminder's successful inclusive practice ensures parents are kept well informed about their children's progress and able to contribute to their children's learning. The childminder is strongly aware of the need for continual improvement and through her comprehensive self evaluation, demonstrates a highly motivated approach to providing a good quality learning programme.

The childminder's support and promotion of children's welfare is outstanding. She provides well prepared and attractive play areas that offer children a highly stimulating learning environment. She has an excellent range of resources and children greatly enjoy role play and inventive play based on stories. All children have frequent access to the childminder's secure outdoor area, with many play and learning opportunities available, including ball games, trampoline and messy-play. A highly organised and wide range of play items and learning materials are in place to support the healthy growth and development of all ages of children attending. Children are securely safeguarded at the setting and children's safety is highly organised and consistently supported, by continual risk assessment and a wide range of safety procedures. The promotion of children's health and the maintenance of hygiene within the childminder's home is well organised. A clear range of guidance documents are provided, but to support improvement in safeguarding, a recommendation is made to develop the organisation of accident and medication records. The childminder successfully promotes children's awareness of healthy foods and much close attention is paid to children's health and physical development. Children's consistent good behaviour and awareness of

others is also a strong feature within the setting. A range of festivals, musical activities and planned activities support children's understanding of the wider world, but to support further improvement, a recommendation is made to increase the range of resources and materials that reflect diversity within the children's learning environment. Children are contented and happy at the setting and during all their play and learning, their future skills are successfully encouraged and supported.

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?	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	1
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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 the last inspection.

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.