

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY303375
Inspection date	24/11/2008
Inspector	Tracy Bartholomew

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 2005. She is registered on the Early Years, Compulsory and Voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with husband and two children aged seven and 14 in Didcot in Oxfordshire. There are shops, toddler groups and parks within walking distance.

The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding with sleep facilities available on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for five children at any one time, of which two of these are in the early years age group.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children enjoy a variety of experiences to broaden their learning and developmental progress of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The childminder provides an inclusive setting, meeting children's individual needs effectively through use of the key person approach. The childminder and the children have good relationships and clearly have fun playing and learning. The childminder clearly demonstrates the capacity to improve quality care for all children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop observations of children so that they can be used to assess and plan for their progress across all areas of learning
- record details of when risk assessments are carried out to ensure any potential risks are monitored and minimised

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children benefit from a well organised provision, the childminder's commitment to training and furthering her knowledge of outcomes for children is high. She reflects on her practice, acts on advice from Trio childminding group and other professionals to continually improve her service.

Children are safeguarded, and documentation shows her commitment to provide a safe and professional service. The childminder carries out regular risk assessments but these are not always documented in sufficient detail to show a complete record. The childminder has established effective partnerships with parents, she has detailed records on children's individual needs and works closely with them to ensure continuity. These good systems are further extended by the childminder's links with other professionals.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children participate in a good balance of adult led and individual chosen activities. The children enjoy a wide range of suitable activities based on their interests, which meet their individual needs. For example, the children are involved in a painting activity, which the childminder adapts to the individual learning needs of all the children present. She focuses on sensory and fine motor skills for the younger child, and develops this activity for the older child, into naming colours, mixing and creating patterns to aid maths skills.

Children experience all six areas of learning through practical purposeful play. Toys and resources are regularly rotated with the childminder ensuring that firm favourites are consistently offered, such as the story sack books, musical instruments and the dolls. The childminder plans regular outings in the environment that enhance children's learning and development, such as weekly visits to the library, toddlers, post office and local parks. Special outings to farms and into town extend their understanding of the world as they visit the cafe and pay for their drinks.

Children play in a safe, secure and clean home environment. They enjoy daily fresh air and physical exercise such as playing in the garden on the see saw and walking to and from local pre-schools. The childminder teaches them how to protect themselves from injury, such as not climbing on furniture, and helps them learn how to cross roads safely. Visual risk assessments are undertaken which ensures overall children are safe. The childminder understands her responsibility to protect children and knows what procedure to follow if she has a concern to ensure children are safeguarded whilst in her care.

The childminder knows the children well, she has documentation in place to effectively allow her to meet the developmental needs of the children. Regular observations of children support their learning but do not routinely cover all areas in detail. Children play in clean, safe premises. They use a well equipped child friendly home in which the children can choose and play from a wide range of good quality resources. They learn suitable personal hygiene routines. The childminder uses good procedures to protect children from the dangers of cross-infection. She understands her responsibility to protect children's welfare.

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

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.