

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY299204
Inspection date	27/10/2008
Inspector	Hazel Stuart-Buddery
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 registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and their two children in Farnborough, Hampshire. The house is in walking distance of local parks, shops and schools. The ground floor of the childminder's house is mostly used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder may care for a maximum of four children and is currently minding three children on a full-time basis. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.

The childminder drives to local schools and nurseries to take and collect children. She regularly makes use of a play gym in a neighbouring town and provides opportunities for children to play with other children outside the home. The family has two cats.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder's home is warm and welcoming and children have use of a dedicated playroom. She interacts with the children and supports their learning and development. Observations on the children have been recently introduced and resources are available to help children progress to their next stage of development. The childminder fully safeguards children while they are in her care. Partnerships with parents and others are encouraged to ensure inclusive practice is promoted. The childminder has a set of written policies and procedures, however, not all reflect current regulations. She has made some progress towards her self evaluation and is attending courses to help her development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- improve daily hygiene procedures to prevent the spread of infection
- continue to develop knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements to promote the early learning goals and to support children's progress.

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

- develop knowledge and understanding of the current regulations for dealing with complaints and fully share with parents (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare).

10/11/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her home well. Children freely and safely select resources from an age appropriate range. However, activities that are organised do not always allow for the differing abilities of the children present. The childminder has given some consideration to her own development and is completing a relevant level 3 qualification that will help her to develop her knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). She has addressed all issues raised at the last inspection. The childminder has written policies and procedures, although not all reflect current regulations. Parents have not been fully informed of how to make a complaint should they need to do so and the childminder is not secure on the procedure to follow. The childminder is aware of the importance of working closely with pre-schools and others to ensure the individual needs of all children are met and to enable her to enhance the educational programmes that they receive. She has a good understanding of the welfare requirements and all parental consents are in place.

The childminder has a good knowledge of child protection issues and of the procedures to follow should she be concerned. Parents are fully informed about her responsibility with regard to child protection. All recent publications and phone numbers are to hand if needed. Children play in safe and secure environment. Written risk assessments are completed in detail and include all outings.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. She supports children in their play and offers satisfactory levels of support. She has a sound understanding of the basics of the learning and development requirements within the EYFS and continues to develop in this area. She is confident in her knowledge of the six areas of learning and is developing her understanding of the early learning goals in order to fully support children. The childminder talks with parents to ascertain children's starting points. She has started to complete written observations on some children. This information is used to plan resources and activities that will help them to secure the early learning goal they are working towards and help them to progress to the next stage of their development. Long, medium and short term plans have been written, although they do not make clear links to the early learning goals or identify any specific learning objectives. The childminder has started to maintain development files on some of the children. She shares this file with parents and keeps them fully informed of their child's progress while they are in her care.

Children enjoy fresh air and exercise in the garden. They independently put on their Wellington boots and excitedly go outside. Some children confidently climb onto the small trampoline and smile with delight as they jump up and down. Others like to push themselves along as fast as they can on small wheeled bikes. Children enjoy kicking balls to each other and play well together. The childminder organises activities that all children can join in together, for example, play dough, although the individual needs of all children are not differentiated and older children soon move on to another activity as they are not sufficiently challenged. Children's language skills are developing well. They confidently communicate with the childminder and other adults. Pictures and posters around the play room of letters and words give children constant reminders. Children happily recall the large Sun

Flower they grew in the summer and proudly show the picture that shows how big the flower grew. The childminder supports children's learning which enables them to make satisfactory progress in their development.

The childminder has an understanding of the welfare requirements. She provides a safe and secure environment for children to play and encourages children to think about their own safety. Older children confidently explain how they safely cross roads. A healthy, balanced diet is provided for the children. However, children do not always wash their hands before eating and after playing in the garden. Children enjoy themselves while they are in the childminder's care and proudly show off the play dough sculpture they have made. The childminder offers praise and encouragement to the children who respond positively to her and display good levels of self-esteem.

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

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Satisfactory
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:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- devise and implement a written child protection policy and fully share with parents.

10/11/2008

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

No complains have been 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.