

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY285367
Inspection date	09/12/2008
Inspector	Susan Mary Deadman
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 2004. She lives with her husband and two children who are three and five years of age. The family lives in Stanwell, Middlesex. All areas of the home are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time. She is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is able to take children to and collect them from local schools. The family have no pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides a highly supportive service to children and their families; she promotes inclusive practice through effective communication with parents to meet the individual needs of the children. Children make excellent progress in their learning and development due to the childminder's clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. The generally good procedures in place keep children safe and promote their welfare. The childminder has a good capacity for continuous improvement and regularly attends additional training courses, which promotes children's welfare and development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- obtain prior written permission for each and every medicine from parents before any medication is given and implement an effective recording procedure
- continue to develop the links with other professionals who also care for the children
- extend the risk assessments to include each type of outing and these must be reviewed before embarking on each specific outing.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's strong commitment to continually enhance the practice promotes children's welfare and development. For example, she has completed the improvements identified at the previous inspection. She is developing her procedures to monitor and evaluate her practice and makes excellent use of various local facilities to enhance children's enjoyment of activities.

The highly effective partnership with parents provides them with full details of their children's time at the setting and includes all areas of their development. The excellent use of photographs enables the childminder to 'capture the moment' and

share this with parents.

The childminder implements the findings of effective risk assessments. They are generally comprehensive and cover all areas of the home and include some outings. The childminder safeguards children as she follows detailed policies and procedures, such as child protection. Accident records contain all the required details and are signed by parents, which supports children's safety. The childminder gains prior written permission from parents to administer medication and discusses their child's requirements. However, the written consent is not gained prior to each medication and recording systems do not provide full details, which does not fully promote children's welfare.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder significantly enhances children's development through the planning and implementation of purposeful and challenging activities. Children gain a great deal of benefit from activities such as baking and water play, where they talk about textures and colour changes. There is a wide range of interesting activities to promote children's understanding of mathematical concepts. Children have high levels of concentration and enthusiastically talk about their family members who they are sure will enjoy the end product of their cooking activity. Children thoroughly enjoy outings and show high levels of curiosity in nature and benefit from the outdoor environment.

Through regular observation and assessment the childminder has a very clear understanding of children's current ability and uses the information effectively to plan for the next steps of their development. The childminder is developing her links with the children's school/nursery and has a clear commitment to work with them to support and extend children's learning and development.

The childminder develops children's social skills by providing regular outings and activities with other childminders. This, and the childminder's warm care, promotes children's confidence and self esteem. Excellent use is made of books and discussion to reassure children through various emotional situations. Children learn how to keep themselves safe during outings. For example, they participate in activities which provide them with an understanding of road safety and the childminder makes good use of books and work sheets to reinforce this. Children gain a good understanding of healthy lifestyles and benefit from good hygiene procedures, which includes washing their hand prior to cooking and cleaning their teeth after meals. Good organisation supports their independence in the bathroom.

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?	1
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?	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?	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

Since the previous inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted.

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.