

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY305479
Inspection date	03/12/2008
Inspector	Michele, Karen Beasley
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 lives with her partner in a house in Bordon, close to schools and shops. The ground floor of the home is used for childminding as well as two upstairs bedrooms, for sleeping, and a bathroom. There is a fully enclosed rear decked and grassed garden available for outdoor play. The house is fully accessible from the road. The family has a dog, a rabbit and a tortoise.

When working by herself the childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. Whilst working with an assistant this number rises to nine children. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently eight children in the early years age group on roll. They attend on a part-time and full-time basis. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment where consideration is given to children's individual needs, health and well-being. An emphasis is given to ensuring children feel confident and secure within their surroundings. Information is gathered from parents regarding children's specific needs. An inclusive environment is provided where suitable toys and equipment are available to all children. The childminder does have a knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which is evident in the areas she has highlighted for improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure observations and assessments are used to identify learning priorities enabling each child to achieve their full potential
- continue to build on and maintain effective working partnerships with parents, carers and other agencies in relation to children's learning and development
- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children

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

- ensure that all documentation is maintained
(Documentation)

31/12/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has an awareness of safeguarding issues. The childminder provides a caring approach and has implemented good health and hygiene procedures. However, the childminder's first aid certificate has expired. Appropriate safety equipment is in place and the childminder has considered how to keep children safe when they go on outings. Much of the required documentation is in place, although some children's details are inconsistently recorded, which is a breach of the requirements. Parents spend time sharing information to help the childminder get to know their child in order to ease the settling process. Daily discussions are used to update parents on their child's care during the day. Individual daily sheets are used as a communication tool for parents of younger children. There are arrangements in place for working together with other carers to support children's learning and development. This has yet to be developed as it is in its infancy. Good improvements have been made since the last inspection. The childminder uses self-evaluation to identify strengths and weaknesses to address her practice. Some thought has been given to identifying areas for improvement, for example, the childminder talked about using her observations of the children to more readily identify learning and development needs to extend children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are motivated to learn because the childminder provides a stimulating environment where they are encouraged to develop their independence. Children select labelled resources they wish to play with from a wide variety of toys suited to their stage of development. They enjoy a mix of child-initiated play and adult-led activities that cover areas of the curriculum. The childminder supports their learning. Evidence shows children enjoying creative activities, being outdoors and being occupied with various age appropriate resources. The childminder has a knowledge of children's learning and development needs. She is planning on evaluating observations and taking more photographs of the children engrossed in activities to record their progress towards the early learning goals. Children enjoy using a secure environment. The childminder has organised her home well to provide plenty of space for children to free flow from indoors to outdoors. Children have daily opportunities to benefit from fresh air and exercise through walking to and from school and visits to the park. The childminder encourages children to develop healthy eating habits and liaises with parents and children to provide nutritious planned meals and snacks. Children develop an awareness of our diverse society through using a range of resources that reflect different cultures and beliefs. The childminder helps young children to develop their language through speaking clearly and listening intently to what children say to her. This gives children the confidence to practise their speech, and to develop a wider vocabulary whilst they play.

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?	3
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?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
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

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the Early Years Register.

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.