

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY298087
Inspection date	19/09/2008
Inspector	Judith, Mary Butler
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 2004. She is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband and their two school aged children in Slough in Berkshire. Shops, toddler groups, a park and other amenities lie within walking distance. The childminder can take children to and collect them from local schools and pre-schools. The childminder has two dogs and one cat as pets.

Minded children may use the whole of the ground floor with bathroom and sleep facilities available on the first floor. A fully enclosed rear garden is available for outside play. Her home is readily accessible. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. Her registration permits her to care for three children in the early years age range, at any one time. She currently minds four children, who attend on a full and part-time basis.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides an inclusive environment where all children are valued and have their individual needs met. She provides children with a safe and secure home and follows effective procedures to ensure their safety and welfare at all times. The childminder works closely with parents and this is a strength of the provision. Parents receive verbal and written feedback regarding their child's progress through discussion, daily feedback sheets and the observations and assessment files the childminder holds for each child. The childminder informally evaluates her provision and this ensures ongoing improvement and development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- attend safeguarding children training to update individual knowledge and further enhance the welfare of children
- ensure confidentiality is maintained when recording accidents and incidents occurring to each child.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She uses this knowledge to plan individually for children's learning and development, for example, undertaking observations and identifying each child's progress and next steps in learning. She has clear policies and procedures in place and follows these to ensure that all children are included and have their welfare needs met. Children's welfare is further promoted through the completion and reviewing of documentation with parents, such as medication consent forms. However, documents used to record accidents and incidents are

not individual to each child. The childminder has not attended safeguarding children training to extend and develop her child protection knowledge. Documentation is presented in an orderly fashion and she shares policies and procedures with parents. The childminder reflects on her practice objectively but has yet to formalise her self evaluation process. She is aware of children's learning and development needs and this knowledge is being underpinned through her commitment to completing her NVQ3 qualification.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children receive a varied, interesting and fun range of activities and experiences while in the care of this childminder. The childminder undertakes regular observations on each child. This enables her to plan activities and resources to suit their individual stage of development and play preferences, for example, one child plays in the ball pool, rolling the balls to the childminder and beginning to name the colours. Children receive high levels of praise and encouragement in their play and delight in the individual time and attention they receive from the childminder, such as, laughing and running to the childminder for a cuddle after jumping on the mat which made the music start. Children are beginning to show co-operation in their play and the childminder encourages them to develop relationships and work alongside their peers, including providing enough resources to allow both children to play with similar toys.

Children receive a balance of adult led activities and those that they choose for themselves. Toys and resources within the lounge are displayed attractively and allow children many opportunities to self select and make individual choices about the materials and resources they wish to use. The childminder makes good use of the available space within the home and garden to provide children with quiet, active, inside and outside activities within their daily routine. She has a sound knowledge of each child in her care and works well with parents to support their learning needs, for example, obtaining everyday words from a child's first language to support them and assist them in feeling comfortable within her home.

Children are safeguarded effectively and benefit from the extensive safety checks undertaken in the home and developing risk assessments for individual outings. Effective procedures are in place for evacuation of the home and the childminder discusses safety issues with the children, for example, reminding older children about walking safely before leaving the house. Children develop awareness of keeping themselves safe through gentle reminders and reinforcement of the expectations from the childminder through their daily routine, such as, asking children not to throw the balls inside as they may hurt somebody. The childminder has a sound awareness of the procedures to follow should she have concerns regarding a child in her care. However, she has not attended safeguarding children training and some documentation does not ensure confidentiality is maintained at all times.

The childminder discusses the individual needs of children with parents, including any dietary requirements, and ensures she meets these at all times. She promotes a healthy lifestyle and children access fresh air and exercise within their daily routine.

Effective procedures are in place to enhance children's health, including nappy changing procedures, individual bedding and ensuring children have access to fresh drinking water throughout their daily routine.

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

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
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:	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

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.