

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY369715
Inspection date	18/11/2008
Inspector	Lilyanne Taylor

Type of setting	Childminder
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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 2008. She lives with her partner and three children; two school age, one pre-school age. They live in a mid-terrace house in a residential area of Newport on the Isle of Wight. All areas of the home are suitable for childminding. However, the childminder prefers to only use the lower floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The house is within walking distance to local shops, school and parks. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. Currently the childminder has three children on roll, of these, two are in the early years age group, one attends full time and one part time. The childminder's normal operating hours are every weekday from 08:00 to 18:00. The family keep a rabbit as a pet.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children enjoy the time they spend at the setting. The childminder works alongside parents to ensure all children's individual welfare and learning needs are appropriately supported and met. She has an accurate understanding of the strengths of the provision and takes appropriate action to ensure areas she identifies for improvement are addressed. For example, since registration she has attended training to prepare herself for the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). As a result, this has had a positive impact on her ability to appropriately support all children to make good progress in their learning.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- increase the range of resources and activities provided so children are able to gain an awareness and develop their knowledge and understanding of the cultures and beliefs of others
- review the systems in place for recording the permission parents give to enable emergency treatment and or advice to be sought so that all information held on children is able to be stored confidentially.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's ability to self evaluate her own practice shows she has a strong commitment to developing aspects of the service provided. The childminder is well organised and has formalised a range of written policies and procedures which are shared with parents and used to inform her practice. Most information held relating to children is stored in their individual files to ensure confidentiality.

The childminder has established good relationships with parents and ensures they

are kept well informed of the progress their children are making. Parents have access to a range of information regarding the EYFS and are encouraged to be involved in their child's learning by sharing information of achievements they may have noticed their children make at home or interests they may have expressed.

The safety and protection of children is given high priority. The childminder is fully aware of her role and responsibility for ensuring children are safeguarded and knows what action to take should she have concerns about a child's welfare. Through the childminder's constant supervision and the comprehensive risk assessments she conducts for the premises indoors, outdoors and for outings, children are kept safe and protected from harm at all times.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder gets to know the children well and builds effective relationships with their parents. Good settling in procedures ensure children settle quickly and feel secure because they are familiar with the childminder and the surroundings; children are able to attend pre-visits to the childminder's home with their parents.

Children benefit from the childminder's knowledge of their individual stages of development; observations she makes of children identify the developmental progress they are making and used to plan activities to move them forward to their next steps of learning. As a result children are supported to reach their full potential.

Children are developing good friendships with each other as they are encouraged to share and take turns, which is managed well by the childminder. Older children have a clear understanding of acceptable boundaries because they are involved in the setting up of house rules. Children follow the childminder's example and are beginning to show respect to others. For example, younger children raise their hand to say 'thank you' to car drivers as they stop to let them cross the roads.

Toys and resources are stored at low level, easily accessible and clearly labelled, enabling children to make independent choices within their daily routines. Children enjoy making their own choices in play, which allows them to follow and develop their own interests, for example, playing with dolls and pushchairs, making marks on paper using crayons and pencils or sitting in the play tent looking at books. The childminder is active in using praise and encouragement and because of this, children are developing confidence and high levels of self-esteem.

The childminder uses the outdoor environment as a good learning resource for children. For example, while out walking children learn how to keep themselves safe when crossing roads, they count the numbers of cars they have seen and look at the different types of houses people live in. Although children gain some knowledge of the needs of others through discussions they have with the childminder, they have few opportunities to play with resources or to take part in activities that reflect wider society.

Children are developing their knowledge and understanding of how to use

information technology equipment; younger children have the experience of playing with a key board and mouse while older children under the close supervision of the childminder learn how to access safe programmes on the internet.

The childminder aims to ensure all children eat healthily; snacks she provides consist of pieces of fresh fruit and vegetables. In addition, parents are provided with information of healthy food they may wish to include in their children's lunch boxes.

Children are learning how to stay safe; they are reminded not to talk to strangers and they participate in fire drill practises to ensure they know how to evacuate the home safely in the event of a fire.

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 registration.

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.