

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY373700
Inspection date	15/10/2008
Inspector	Jacqueline Munden

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 was registered in 2008. She lives in Southampton with her three children. All areas of the home are used for childminding and there is an enclosed garden for outside play. The family have a hamster and two cats. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a total of five children at any one time of whom two may be in the early years age group. The childminder is registered to work with an assistant and may then care for up to three in the early years age group. There are currently six children aged under eight years on roll. She is a member of the Southampton Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

All children are welcomed and are beginning to settle in the family environment where they are valued and included. The childminder develops a suitable understanding of children's individual needs through working closely with parents. She provides appropriate learning and development opportunities although systems are still being developed to ensure their ongoing progress is fully promoted. Children's health and safety are generally suitably promoted although when working with her assistant regulations are not always met which impacts on children's welfare. The childminder has recently started to evaluate and reflect on her practice to secure future improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop systems of observation, assessment and planning to fully monitor and support all children's learning and development
- maintain a record of when the assistant is present
- further develop systems for self evaluation.

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

- ensure the assistant completes an appropriate paediatric first aid course by 30/01/2009 (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 30/01/2009
- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment (Documentation) 22/10/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises the time she and the assistant spend with children appropriately ensuring they are well supervised and supported in their play. She has developed a wide range of policies and procedures that inform parents of her practice. The childminder ensures children who speak English as an additional language are fully included and made welcome. Regular verbal communication with parents enables information to be shared appropriately. The childminder has begun the process of self assessment and demonstrates a suitable capacity to recognise areas for improvement. For example she has booked to attend training in the Early Years Foundation Stage to help her assess and plan for children's ongoing learning. However, she is not fully aware of current regulation and the requirements of working with an assistant. Children's health cannot be assured in an emergency as parental permission is not obtained to seek medical treatment and the assistant is not trained in first aid. Children are well safeguarded, she has attended training in child protection and devised a policy and procedure she shares with parents. Risk assessments are conducted and the home is secure; she has contingency arrangements in place in case of an emergency. However, the registration system does not record when the assistant is present and caring for children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are making satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder plans some activities and outings which promotes children's physical development and social skills. Good use is made of the garden in all weathers; they develop large muscles playing on the varied range of equipment and use their imagination in the play house. Suitable resources ensure young children make progress and learn. For example, they enjoy posting the shapes into sorters and explore electronic toys. These engage children's interest and help them develop dexterity. The childminder helps children develop language and learn new words in English as she demonstrates pushing the toy to make a sound and repeats the word 'push'. Generally, children are happy and confident in the company of the childminder and assistant who relate well to them. Children's home languages and cultural differences are respected. The childminder has a suitable understanding of the early learning goals but is not yet confident or secure in how to observe, assess and challenge children across all the areas of learning. Children's welfare is promoted. Their individual care routines are met and considered well. They happily settle to sleep and enjoy meal times together. The childminder follows suitable procedures to ensure children's health is maintained. They are provided with individual bedding and hand towels. They learn to keep safe as they are involved in practising the emergency evacuation procedure.

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?	Satisfactory
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?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Satisfactory

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.