

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY370233
Inspection date	02/10/2008
Inspector	Gillian Little
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 2008. She lives in Witney with her partner and two children aged four and one. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding, together with a first floor bedroom and bathroom. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The family has a rabbit and two guinea pigs.

The childminder offers care on a daily basis. She is registered on the Early Years Register to care for two children in the early years age group at any one time, and on the compulsory part of the Childcare Register to care for children in the later years age group. The childminder is also registered on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register to care for children aged eight and above. The childminder is currently minding three children, all of whom attend on a part time basis.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and holds a BTec Diploma in Nursery Nursing.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children thrive in a caring, inclusive and stimulating environment as the childminder treats children equally and provides a good range of interesting activities and experiences. The childminder's positive relationships with parents and her commitment to tracking children's progress ensure that she meets individual needs effectively. The home is safe, spacious and welcoming and the childminder has a range of effective procedures in place to support children's welfare. Self-evaluation processes are in place to evidence good practice and the childminder is committed to further development. Some areas of documentation, however, lack detail to support current practice.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop risk assessments to include further details of how risks will be minimised, particularly on outings
- develop the written self evaluation to include areas for improvement and to provide evidence of improvements made.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her time well to ensure children have good opportunities to play freely under her close supervision. Her experience and qualifications help her to provide the support and experiences children need in order to make good progress in their learning. The childminder ensures that all adults in her household have appropriate background checks and that children

remain under her close supervision when visitors come to the house. She demonstrates a good working knowledge of child protection procedures. All regulatory records are in place, well maintained and easily accessible to the childminder, as well as a wide range of clearly thought out policies which work well in practice. Written risk assessments adequately show how hazards in the home and on outings are minimised to prevent accidents although they lack detail, particularly those relating to outings. Parents receive good quality information about the setting including copies of all the childminder's policies. The childminder includes all families equally and ensures that children who are bilingual receive additional support to encourage them to communicate. The childminder's evaluation of her practice is accurate although she does not identify in writing improvements that she has made or improvements that she wishes to make in the future. Some improvements have been made since registration which has increased safety for children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have good opportunities to be active and learn about the world around them as they spend time outdoors on a daily basis. They are fascinated by the family pets showing delight as the childminder talks to them about the rabbit and guinea pigs kept in hutches in the garden. They enjoy exploring the garden using a variety of equipment and toys, such as a swing, playhouse and footballs, helping them to develop a range of skills. The childminder organises frequent outings which include a singing group, toddler group, and visits to the library, to help children experience a wide range of activities which extend their social, language and physical skills. In the childminder's home, children have access to a wide range of easily accessible toys which they can choose freely. They become fully engaged in their play, caring for baby dolls and pretending to go shopping. The childminder supports children effectively using lots of interaction, praise and encouragement to extend their play. She demonstrates new skills to children, such as making sandcastles, or pointing out interesting observations, such as finding a spider's web. She effectively supports children in sharing toys and having equal turns, helping them to develop an understanding of acceptable sociable behaviour. Children learn about staying safe, such as the importance of keeping safety straps on during car journeys, and about personal hygiene, learning to wash their hands after handling the family pets. They learn to make healthy choices about what they eat and drink as the childminder provides nutritious snacks, such as pineapple, and ensures that drinks are freely available.

Daily diaries detail children's progress, such as a shy child becoming more confident or another child's behavioural development. These observations are used to plan further relevant activities and experiences, such as outings and other opportunities to increase social interaction. The childminder works closely with parents ensuring that they are well-informed about their children's progress and that she has relevant information about children's individual needs and starting points.

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?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
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 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.