

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY372405
Inspection date	09/12/2008
Inspector	Maxine Coulson
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 2008. She lives with her husband and three children ages 14, seven and five years. They live in a three bedroom semi detached house on a residential road close to the centre of Banbury. The whole of downstairs is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for children's outside play. Her home is within walking distance of local shops, parks, pre-school and schools. The family have one guinea pig.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of four children at any one time. She is currently caring for three children in the early years age range and one school age child. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are making good progress in their learning and development as they play in a well organised and safe environment. The childminder knows them well and recognises each child as an individual; this means overall she is meeting their specific needs. All children have equal access to a well planned range of activities, resources and equipment that helps promote all areas of learning. The childminder works well with parents and although she is able to identify areas she wishes to improve upon, she has not yet fully implemented procedures for evaluating her own practices.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further expand knowledge of the six areas of learning and development to ensure children are fully supported through every day activities and play
- develop self evaluation procedures to further improve the quality of provision for children

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

- obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

23/12/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Clear policies and procedures underpin the care given to the children which help meet their individual needs. Children have free access to a wide range of age appropriate resources and the childminder achieves a very good level of child-led

and adult-led activities. She is beginning to evaluate her provision. However, she sometimes lacks understanding of how this links into her own practices and how to continually monitor them to improve the outcomes for children. She is currently working towards achieving a Level 2 NVQ in childcare.

Children benefit from the good relationship the childminder has with parents and information is shared on a daily basis. The childminder discusses all policies and procedures with parents to enhance the continuity of children's care. She requests initial information from the parents, such as, the children's likes, dislikes and any special requirements. This is so that she can ensure she is meeting all children's needs and they are being fully included in all aspects of the setting. Further inclusive practice is promoted by the childminder as she provides a good range of activities that meet the interests of all children in her care. There is also a variety of toys and resources that encourage children to understand and respect diversity and differences.

Overall, regulatory records are maintained and include the necessary written parental permissions to ensure children's safety. Although the childminder obtains verbal permission from parents, she does not always request prior written permission to administer all medication. This is a breach of a Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare requirement. The environment is safe and child friendly, with clear procedures and practices that ensure the health and well-being of each child. Risk assessments are carried out regularly to identify possible hazards and the childminder takes preventative measures to reduce the risks to the children. She is aware of the local safeguarding procedures and what to do if she has concerns about a child in her care which helps children remain safe.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder knows the children well and is able to plan a broad range of activities to meet all their different interests. The childminder is beginning to make sensitive and concise observations of the children in her care. Children's starting points are clearly ascertained through discussion and recording of information when the child begins their time with the childminder. This means she is able to effectively plan their next steps of learning. However, the childminder is not always secure in her knowledge of how the six areas of learning impact on the children's development.

The children show positive attitudes to learning and are interested and stimulated by the variety of activities provided. The childminder welcomes all children and is good at adapting activities to enable them to take an active role and develop at their own pace.

Children express themselves effectively when given choices and participate enthusiastically in adult initiated activities, for example, sticking and gluing. The childminder uses this opportunity to discuss children's particular interests. For example, sticking sparkly shapes onto a red aeroplane she initiates a conversation about where different aeroplanes can be seen. Children's enjoyment within the setting is further promoted through an array of photographs showing other

children within the setting and persons familiar to them. This encourages and develops their sense of self-worth and self-esteem.

The childminder has good regard to the children's safety and welfare. She is a good role model and encourages children to learn simple hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before eating and after playing outside. The childminder has a good understanding of healthy eating and is fully aware of the children's dietary needs and allergies. Their behaviour is well managed both inside and when away from the house, with clear house rules that are understood by all. The childminder develops sound working relationships with the parents and carers of the children, sharing information and working in partnership for the benefit of the child.

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
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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

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action.

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.