

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY379946
Inspection date	15/10/2008
Inspector	Dinah Round

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 to care for children in 2008. She lives with her husband and two children aged three and five years. They live in a ground floor flat close-by the centre of Wimborne, in Dorset. Childminding is carried out in all areas of the premises and children have access to a rear enclosed garden for outdoor play activities. The family have two cats. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, and compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years, two of whom may be in the early years age group. There is currently one child attending. The childminder links with the local authority and is a member of NCMA.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are happy, settled and have good relationships with the childminder and her family. The childminder is supportive of children's individual needs and organises activities so all children can be included. Children are provided with a variety of age appropriate play opportunities, however, systems to assess and fully promote children's learning through the Early Years Foundation Stage are not effectively in place. Children's welfare is generally promoted well in most areas and they benefit from the welcoming homely environment provided. There are no systems in place to evaluate the quality of provision and promote ongoing improvements of the care and learning for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop systems of observation, assessment and planning to fully support and extend children's learning and development
- develop self-evaluation systems to identify strengths and weaknesses and areas for improvement

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

- maintain a record of risk assessment which includes outings, to ensure all risks to children are identified and minimised (W1 Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare)

29/10/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Most required records are in place and stored securely and confidentially. However, a record of risk assessment has not been completed to ensure risks to children are fully identified and minimised, including when on outings. The childminder has developed some policy statements which are shared with parents to inform them of her practices, such as the importance of excluding children when they are infectious to help minimise the spread of cross-infection. The childminder has established effective partnerships with parents and carers which helps to ensure that children's individual needs are followed. Daily diaries and informal discussion at the beginning and end of the day means that information is shared on a regular basis. This contributes towards children's care and well being.

The childminder has only been childminding for a short time and is still developing her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has enrolled on a home-based childminding diploma to help increase her knowledge and skills. The childminder has a sound understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard children. Systems to monitor the outcomes for children and identify areas for improvement are not currently in place.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has a clear understanding of children's individual developing needs and organises a variety of play experiences during the day. This includes daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise through walking to school, trips to the local park and visiting the local market so children can help choose vegetables for lunch. Children visit the local library to take part in the weekly rhyme time sessions and choose different books. Children benefit as the childminder interacts in a warm and caring way, allowing them to freely explore and select toys from around the play space. Children enjoy hiding and finding the animals in the farm and they giggle with excitement as they knock down the small tower of bricks the childminder has built. They enjoy sitting quietly and sharing a book with the childminder listening carefully to the 'five little ducks' rhyme. However, systems of observation, assessment and planning are not in place to fully support and extend children's learning and development.

Children are happy and settled in the friendly and welcoming environment provided by the childminder. The childminder follows their individual routines which makes sure they remain comfortable during their play. Children are sufficiently supervised, however, systems are not fully in place to ensure all risks to children are minimised. Effective use of distraction means that children are kept sufficiently well occupied with the toys and resources. Children's health is promoted well, they benefit from being provided with healthy and nutritious food, such as snacks of fresh fruit and lunches of wholemeal pitta bread with salad and cheese. Children have access to regular drinks during the day which makes sure they do not get thirsty.

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?	Satisfactory

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?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
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 are no complaints to report

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.