

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY376501
Inspection date	12/11/2008
Inspector	Anne Jeanette Faithfull
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 is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband and their young child in Bracknell, Berkshire. The childminder makes use of local facilities such as parks and toddler groups which are nearby. The childminder can take children to and collect them from local schools.

The childminder uses the whole of the house for childminding. A fully enclosed rear garden is available for outside play. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. Her registration permits her to care for two children in the early years age range, at any one time. She currently minds three children who attend on a part-time basis.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides a happy, caring and relaxed environment for the children. She ensures she promotes an inclusive environment and safe provision for the children. The childminder knows the children well and uses their individual interests effectively to fully support and promote their learning. As a result, the children make good progress in their early learning and development. Strong partnerships with parents ensure children's individual needs are recognised and met and parents are fully involved in the learning process.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage
- continue to develop the observation and assessment system in place to ensure all areas of learning are covered

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is very efficient and well organised. She maintains detailed records and has a comprehensive range of written policies and procedures to support the care and welfare needs of the children. She regularly reviews all the documentation she has in place to ensure all are relevant and up to date. The childminder manages her time well, so children receive plenty of attention, support and guidance. Children's safety is promoted well as the childminder is constantly risk assessing her home to ensure hazards and risks to children are minimised. Written risk assessments are in place for all outings, including a very detailed risk assessment when transporting children in her car to nursery each day and other outings. Children are safeguarded because the childminder is aware of the procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child in her care.

The childminder continually self-evaluates and is committed to on going improvement. Through her self-evaluation the childminder has identified areas for improvement such as, extending her knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has developed a good partnership with parents, they receive a copy of all of her policies and procedures, and the childminder gathers information from them about their child before they start for example their interest and starting points. Parents comment on how caring and honest the childminder is and how their children are happy and contented in her care. The childminder effectively promotes an inclusive environment; she values and respects individual children and ensures all children are included.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder effectively organises the space available to allow the children to be able to move around freely and confidently. She takes into consideration very young children who are not walking yet and ensures they have space around them so they can begin to crawl and roll around. Children play in a safe home and are aware of safety issues as the childminder reminds them not to climb on the furniture and practises the fire drill with them to ensure they are aware of the procedure. Children have the opportunity to choose which type of fruit they would like at snack time and show care, consideration and understanding when they help the childminder feed a young baby fruit puree. The childminder actively promotes children's good health by minimising the risk of cross infection and uses her experience as a gymnast to encourage the children to use a range of equipment to help promote their physical development both inside and outside the home.

Children have many opportunities to socialise with others as they regularly attend activity centres and childminder drop in sessions where they enjoy playing with different resources and participating in a range of group activities. The childminder is a good role model and reminds the children to say please and thank you when appropriate; children share, and take turns when required. The childminder has a flexible monthly plan in place, which highlights the activities and experiences she intends to provide for the children. She takes photographs and makes observations of the children participating in a variety of activities and puts these observations and photos into each child's individual portfolio with a small written description. The childminder has identified in her self-evaluation that she does not link these observations to the different areas of learning. She is in the process of developing a system to identify which area of learning the activities cover to ensure children have access to activities and experiences, which promote all areas of learning. Parents can access their child's portfolio at any time to see the progress their child has made through the comments recorded by the childminder and the range of photographs she has taken.

Children have many opportunities to be creative such as, making pictures out of leaves and space rockets out of boxes using glue and cotton wool. They enjoy making cookies and the children weigh and mix the ingredients and count the cookies they make. All children have the opportunity to participate in all activities as the childminder adapts them to suit and cater for their individual needs and stage of

development. Babies are provided with a range of musical toys and rattles to encourage their early development and they show great delight when they push a button on a toy, which then makes a noise.

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

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted.

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.