

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	155667
Inspection date	14/01/2009
Inspector	Hazel Stuart-Buddery
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 2001. She lives with her husband and two school-aged children in Fleet close to local parks, shops and schools. The ground floor of the property is used for play and the children's bedrooms for rest. There is access to a secure garden for outside play.

She is registered to provide care for four children under eight years and currently has three children on roll, one of which is under five years old. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory part of the Childcare Register. There were no children present at the inspection. The childminder takes the children to the local pre-school group and attends the toddler group on a regular basis.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment. She provides a range of resources that are easily accessible for children to select. Through discussion the childminder identifies her strengths and areas for improvements, although currently does not have procedures in place to address the improvements identified. Most of the welfare requirements are met. Through discussion and observation of documentation, she demonstrated that the learning and development requirements are met. An inclusive practice is generally promoted in most areas.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop awareness of the EYFS and ensure observations, planning and assessments are clearly linked to the early learning goals and identify children's next step of learning in order to promote children's learning
- further develop self-evaluation systems, for example, by using the Ofsted self-evaluation form as the basis for an ongoing review of practice.

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

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
(Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

28/01/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her home well and children are able to freely select resources. She has attended basic training in the Early Years Foundation Stage

(EYFS) and has identified that the learning and development requirements is an area for her further development. However, currently there are no procedures in place to address this. She has not addressed all issues raised at the last inspection. The childminder understands the importance of self-evaluation and talks about some of her strengths and areas for improvement. The current systems for self-evaluation do not include the views of the parents or children. The childminder has a sound awareness of child protection issues and of the procedures to follow, although does not have a written policy in place. Most parental consents are in place, although consent to seek emergency medical treatment and advice has not been obtained.

The childminder talks to parents at the end of each day and shares their child's achievements, although they are not involved in discussing their child's targets for their next step of learning. A written daily diary informs parents what the children have done during the day, this too is shared at the end of each day. A range of written policies and procedures are shared with parents who sign to acknowledge they have read them.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

There were no children present at the inspection. Through discussion the childminder demonstrated an awareness of the six areas of learning, although was not confident in her knowledge of the early learning goals. Through observation it could be seen that a range of resources that are freely available would help children to develop skills in all areas of learning. The childminder talks about regular trips that children go on, for example, to the duck pond, where they count the ducks and to the park where they develop their physical skills. The childminder demonstrated an understanding, through discussion, that she is aware of what toys and activities will help develop particular areas of learning.

The childminder has started to keep some basic records of what the children have done. She observes the children on occasions. As yet, the observations do not have a clear objective and are not linked to an area of learning or the early learning goals and do not identify the child's next step of learning. However, she clearly verbalises the progress children make and where she believes their next step of learning is, but does not link their progress to the early learning goals. She has identified that this is an area for her own development.

The childminder's home is clean and well maintained. Through discussion she demonstrated an awareness of healthy eating and advises that she and the parents provide healthy and balanced meals. Children learn how to keep themselves safe as they regularly take part in fire drills. The childminder advises that all children are well behaved and respond positively to the praise and encouragement that she gives them.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- devise and implement a written child protection policy and fully share with parents.(Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

28/01/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.

28/01/2009

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 last inspection.

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.