

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY309230
Inspection date	01/07/2009
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 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 has been registered since 2005. She lives with her husband and their three children in Farnborough. The property is close to local schools and amenities and there is a park nearby. The whole of the house is used for childminding, with toilet facilities available on the ground floor and provision for children to sleep available upstairs. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and attends the local carer and toddler group. She is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time. She is currently minding five children who attend on a part-time basis and of these, three are in the early years age range. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment. She offers an adequate range of resources, although they are not all easily and safely accessible to allow children's independence. The childminder has identified her strengths and areas of improvement on her self-evaluation, although procedures are not yet in place to address the improvements. Most of the welfare requirements are met. The childminder demonstrates through discussion that the learning and development requirements are met, however, effective systems for monitoring and assessing children's progress and achievements are not yet fully developed.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop systems to monitor children's progress and achievements and use information gathered to identify and plan for the next steps in their learning and development
- develop the promotion of inclusive practice by ensuring resources are organised and stored appropriately to allow all children to self-select easily and safely.

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

- ensure all areas of the home are safe and secure and maintain a record of risk assessment (Documentation) 15/07/2009
- complete an appropriate paediatric first aid course by 15/07/2009 (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 15/07/2009
- request written permission from parents for seeking 15/07/2009

emergency medical advice or treatment.
(Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has recently completed a self-evaluation to assess her own practice. She has clearly identified her strengths and areas for development, although, as yet, procedures are not in place to address the areas of development. She includes parents and children in her evaluation process and reports that parents have verbally informed her that they are happy with the care she provides. She has not addressed all issues raised at the last inspection. The childminder demonstrates an awareness of inclusion by encouraging parents to share information about their child's abilities and their backgrounds. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress and achievements with daily informal discussions. The childminder works closely with pre-schools, exchanging relevant information to ensure individual needs are met. She provides an adequate range of resources and activities, although these are not well organised and inviting to children and do not encourage children to select independently.

The childminder has a clear understanding of child protection issues and the procedure to follow. She has a written policy that outlines her responsibility in this area which is fully shared with parents. The childminder does not hold records of risk assessments and not all hazards within the home are identified and minimised. As a result, children may not be safe and secure at all times. Children are protected from the risk of fire; smoke alarms and fire blankets are in place and fire drills are practised with them.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children play in a clean and well maintained environment. They learn about healthy lifestyles as they enjoy fresh fruit for snack time and have free-flow access to the garden to enjoy fresh air and exercise. The health needs of the children may not be met as the childminder does not hold a current first aid certificate, although does have procedures in place to update it. She has not obtained written permission from parents to seek emergency medical treatment if needed. Children play in a secure environment; the back gate and front door are locked to ensure children cannot leave unattended. Children are supervised while playing on the trampoline to ensure their safety. They are well behaved and listen carefully to instructions when, for example, they are told to wear their hat as it is very hot. Children enjoy each others company and cooperate well during play as they share resources and take turns.

Children arrive happily and immediately settle in their play. They have free access to the garden and choose to have their drink outside. They sit in small chairs in a row and laugh as the childminder suggests they are at the cinema, replying "no", they use their imagination as to where they could be. They make up scenarios as they use water pistols and chuckle with delight as they spray themselves with

water to cool down. Children develop their physical skills as they bounce and jump on the trampoline, laughing and squealing, they see how high they can jump. They have daily opportunities to promote their understanding of information technology as they have free access to a computer and enjoy using cameras to take pictures around the garden.

The childminder has an awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage, although has not attended training to develop her knowledge further. She is aware of the areas of learning and the early learning goals (elg) and confidently talks about the progress children have made while in her care. However, she does not link their progress to the expectations of the elg. This is an area that has been identified for development. The childminder does not use observations effectively to plan a range of activities around the elg to ensure that children make continuous progress.

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?	4
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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

15/07/2009

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 early years section of the report (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

15/07/2009