

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY295992
Inspection date	15/01/2009
Inspector	Sarah Measures

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 2005. She lives near to the town centre in Rugby, Warwickshire. The whole of the childminder's house, with the exception of the main bedroom, is used for minding. There is a secure garden available for outdoor play. The premises are accessible by a small step at the front door, however, the hallway is very narrow and could prevent access for persons using a wheelchair. The childminder may care for up to six children within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). She also cares for children on the compulsory and the voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder has two pet cats. She either walks or uses her car to transport the children. She is a member of the National Childminding Association and has links with local schools, pre-schools, toddler groups and the family centre.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides effectively for children in the EYFS. All children are welcomed into this inclusive setting and are valued as individuals. The childminder puts the children first and works hard to get to know them and meet their individual needs. The childminder keenly addresses recommendations from inspections and actively seeks the views of parents and children, making continuous improvement in the setting. She attends various training opportunities. The childminder is developing good systems of observation and assessment, in order to help children make good progress towards the early learning goals.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop further the systems to observe and assess children in order to plan to meet their individual needs.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Policies and procedures successfully promote children's welfare and their learning and development. The childminder is committed to offering parents and children a quality service. She capably reflects upon her practice and identifies areas that she would like to improve, in order to further enhance children's opportunities within the setting. Children are purposefully engaged in a range of developmentally challenging activities, in and out of the home. The childminder works well with parents and other carers in order to plan to promote good continuity of children's care.

Children are safeguarded because the childminder has a secure understanding of child protection issues and because she keeps local referral information to hand to follow if necessary. Secure systems are in place to ensure children are safely

collected by the appropriate people. Parents are provided with information as to how to make a complaint, in order to offer a transparent and safe service for children. Systems for keeping records are used effectively to promote children's welfare and are stored confidentially, in order to protect children and their families. The childminder carefully risk assesses the premises in order to ensure hazards to children are minimised. She organises her home to make it very welcoming to children, with displays of their work and good access to toys and activities.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder uses the EYFS well as a working document to promote children's learning and development. Children learn effectively because they feel secure and at home within the setting and because they have close relationships with the childminder. Children make good progress in their development overall because the childminder observes them carefully and plans for the next steps in their development. However, observations and assessments are not collated under all development areas for each child, in order to give a complete picture of where children are at with their progress towards the early learning goals. Children benefit from a full range of learning opportunities. For example, they enjoy free play as they choose from a very good range of books, puzzles, games and toys within the home. Children use toys and equipment that are safe, suitable and promote their independence. Children also enjoy musical and creative activities within the setting and as on visiting varied toddler groups within the area. This also gives them important social opportunities.

Children's health is well promoted. This is because they enjoy daily opportunities for outdoor exercise, as they go on walks, visit the local park or play in the childminder's garden. Children develop good physical skills as they use the equipment in the childminder's garden and as they use more challenging and varied equipment at the local park and indoor soft play area. The childminder works with parents in order to meet any dietary or health needs. She offers healthy meals, cooked from fresh ingredients, and makes sure children are able to make healthy choices at snack time.

Children are well behaved because they are well occupied and because they feel secure. The childminder praises and encourages children in order to help develop their self-esteem. The childminder is well organised and takes children's individual needs and routines into account when planning activities.

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

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the 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.