

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	251103
Inspection date	06/01/2009
Inspector	Deirdra Keating
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 1995. She lives with her three children aged 21, 18 and 12 in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. The whole of the property is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The premises are accessible via the front entrance which has a low step.

A maximum of five children may attend the setting at any one time. There are currently five children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) years. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years to 12 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary childcare register.

The childminder walks to the local school to take and collect children. The family have two pet dogs.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides effectively for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children are confident, assured, and have developed good relationships with the childminder in her comfortable home. Individual needs are met well by the childminder using information from parents which promotes a fully inclusive environment. The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and children make good progress in their learning and development, although few resources reflect cultural diversity. Effective procedures ensure that children are protected from harm, however, mandatory suitability checks for her adult children have not been requested.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the process of self-evaluation to ensure strengths and weakness of the early years provision are identified in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage
- extend the range of resources that reflect cultural diversity.

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

- obtain an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure for every person aged 16 or over who lives on the premises (Suitable people).

25/01/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has completed training as required by the Early Years Foundation Stage and is committed to developing her knowledge and skills by accessing information and using her information networks. Written policies and procedures are generally maintained to ensure children's ongoing welfare, care and safety. However, the childminder has not obtained suitability checks for all members of her family living in the house at the time of inspection. The childminder's home is well organised to enable children to make choices in their play and become increasingly independent.

The childminder is committed to improving her practice and has acted upon all the recommendations raised at the last inspection. The practice is monitored using self-evaluation which records areas for improvement but does not reflect the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder dedicates flexible time daily to ensure parents receive enough information about their children at the end of the day. This is valued by parents who may also receive information from the childminder regarding other provisions that their children attend. Parents are actively involved in children's learning and are kept informed about their individual progress and achievements. The childminder is fully committed to the principles of equality and diversity promoting an environment that is inclusive to all.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder promotes children's welfare, learning and development well. Children play in a designated playroom that is warm, comfortably furnished and decorated with colourful displays and pictures of the children who attend. This gives each child an inviting welcome and a firm sense of belonging. The childminder develops children's language well through the use of stories and conversation. Space and resources are organised very well to enable children to participate in a good range of stimulating and fun activities that meet their play and developmental needs. Children request further resources from a large cupboard in which they can easily see and make selections. They confidently make independent choices about what to play with and how to develop their play with different equipment. The childminder supports individual children well, she facilitates changes of equipment and gets down on the floor to enhance children's play using sensitive interventions at the children's request. Consequently, children develop their imaginary play well and learn how to take turns and share equipment with one another. This is reinforced well by the childminder who uses good explanations and praise. Older children understand and respect the house rules, which helps them learn right from wrong. The childminder promotes children's understanding of the wider world and their community, however, there are few resources to fully support children's understanding of diversity. She works closely with parents to record children's achievements in their individual learning records and ensure that any additional needs would be addressed in close partnership with the parents.

The house is secure and the childminder makes daily checks to ensure children are

protected from potential dangers. Children are generally safeguarded as the childminder has some knowledge of how to protect children and uses her policy to ensure that the correct procedures would be followed in the event of a concern about a child. Children are encouraged to adopt healthy habits. They are given healthy snacks and eat lunches brought from home at the table with the childminder. They enjoy physically active play in the garden and at the local park where they can use a range of play equipment.

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?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	3

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
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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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 registration or 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.