

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY357062
Inspection date	22/01/2009
Inspector	Coral Hales
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 2007. She lives with her husband and two children aged five and six in the Southsea area of Portsmouth. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for four children at any one time and is currently minding two children in the early years age range.

The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The premises are generally accessible to all and the family has a cat.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. She is new to her role and continues to develop her understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure that all children make satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder has a suitable understanding of the need to monitor and reflect on her practice and is currently implementing the written self-evaluation document. She strives to provide an inclusive and welcoming service for families to ensure children's uniqueness is respected and valued. She has developed effective working relationships with parents, however she has still to form any links with other providers.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop systems to ensure parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's learning and provide opportunities for progress records to be shared with them
- further develop the current risk assessment to include full risk assessments for each type of outing and review regularly
- liaise with other providers to ensure progression and continuity of care for the children.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding about the importance of documentation and ensures that she maintains all her paperwork effectively. She continues to develop her systems to enable her to effectively monitor and reflect on her practice and she shows commitment to her self-development.

The childminder works closely with the children and their families to ensure continuity of care. She completes written diaries and observations but has yet to implement a system to ensure that she share this information with parents

regularly. The childminder spends her time playing with the children which she clearly enjoys, as a result she is confident in meeting their individual needs. Flexible daily routines allow children experience a varied range of activities inside and outside of the home to develop their understanding of the wider world.

Children are kept safe within the home and play safely both inside and outside because the childminder has a suitable understanding of how to maintain their safety. A written risk assessment is in place and this is generally effective, however does not include assessments for outings undertaken with the children. The childminder has a suitable understanding of how to safeguard children and is aware of her responsibilities. She has relevant child protection documents in place and these are made available to parents.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enjoy their day with the childminder and she organises her home effectively and this enables them to move around freely and have access to a good range of resources including several that are firm favourites. The childminder informally plans her day and babies and children are given time to develop in individual ways and at their own pace. The childminder gains evidence of children's starting points by talking to the parents and by observing the children playing. She has implemented written assessment files and these are used effectively to identify the children's next steps in their learning.

Older children use their increasing vocabulary well to describe what they are doing, for example, when using the rail track and frequently ask questions. They develop their imagination well as they role play as builders, complete with hard hat, goggles and gloves. Younger children verbalise happily as they look at books and while watching others play. Suitable, colourful and interactive resources are used well to encourage new skills, such as rolling, sitting and standing.

Close and caring relationships are evident with lots of cuddles and close contact being enjoyed by the children. The childminder listens and responds to them sensitively and this enables them to feel accepted and settled with a familiar adult. Children behave well and the childminder has a good understanding of how to deal with any issues using age appropriate methods.

Children begin to understand about how to keep themselves safe within the home, for example, they are encouraged to walk not run to prevent them slipping on the floor in their socks. The childminder helps them to understand simple roadside practices as they walk to and from the local schools and preschools. Suitable fire safety measures are in place and children have taken part in an emergency evacuation.

Children play in a clean and well-maintained homely environment and their care requirements are met well. They begin to learn about a healthy lifestyle through general discussion for example, about the different foods in their lunch boxes and are encouraged to drink regularly. Meals times are happy social occasions and younger children are given opportunities to experience new tasks such as

attempting to feed themselves. Children are helped to develop suitable toileting routines and independence is encouraged and the childminder ensures that the needs of the younger ones are met. Children enjoy lots of fresh air as they walk to school and regular visits to parks and places of interest ensure that they are developing a positive attitude to exercise.

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: 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 registration.

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.