

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY289158
Inspection date	03/02/2009
Inspector	Linda Patricia Coccia
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 has been registered since 2004. She lives with her partner and three children aged 15 months, eight years and nine years in a house in Minster, Sheerness. Kent. The house is situated within walking distance of shops, schools, local parks and the beach. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. There are a number of large steps up to the entrance.

The childminder is currently looking after one child aged within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). She is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may look after up to four children under eight years at any one time. The childminder walks or drives to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. She attends a local carer and toddler group on a regular basis. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder is effective in maintaining her provision to a high standard. She is able to meet children's needs through a range of policies and procedures which are adaptable to each child's individual requirements. She promotes inclusion through a range of toys which provide positive images of equality for all ages.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop the planning, observations and assessment systems for the EYFS

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is well organised. Her registration and public liability certificates are displayed for parents. She is going through a period of self evaluation as a result of the introduction of the EYFS. She canvasses the opinions of parents and other local childminders to ensure she continually meets children's individual requirements. Her partnership with parents is effectively managed through lots of verbal communication. Written information is also available if parents require it. Her current parents have opted for verbal reports.

The childminder safeguards children very well. She has recently attended an updated child protection course to increase her knowledge of child protection issues. She has amended her written policy accordingly. All adults in the household have been vetted and hold Criminal Record Bureau checks. She carries out good risk assessments on the premises and toys on a regular basis. Children learn about

home safety through the use of a good range of safety equipment. The childminder has completed the pre-registration childminding course and has enrolled on the additional part which will eventually lead to an NVQ in home child care.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have an enjoyable time with the childminder. They achieve well because the childminder compliments the learning experiences they receive at pre-school. She plans different activities suitable for their age and stage of development, as well as for celebrations throughout the year. Children enjoy making lots of craft items which they take home to their parents. The childminder has begun to do observations on the children which she records in individual folders. For any new children, initial assessments are carried out to decide on their likes and dislikes. These observations are used to help her plan activities. She needs to continue to develop planning, observations and assessment systems to make her provision even more effective for children's learning.

Her range of toys include lots of positive images of race, culture and disability. For example children use skin tone coloured crayons and puzzles showing people with different skin colours and abilities. She also displays some posters in different languages. She discusses children's differences with them so that they learn about and appreciate diversity. Children have good opportunities for learning about the world around them as they use plenty of imaginary play equipment. These include play tills and telephones which promote problem solving, reasoning and numeracy.

The childminder has a number of good procedures which promote children's welfare. They help children learn about health and hygiene issues. For example they learn they must wash their hands after going to the toilet. Pictorial directions for hand washing are displayed in the bathroom to remind children. She also displays posters to aid the children when they practice the emergency evacuation procedures. Children are offered a good range of healthy food and individual diets can be catered for although none are currently needed.

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 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.