

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	111996
Inspection date	13/05/2009
Inspector	Alison Jane Kaplonek
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 to care for children since 1991. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder lives with her two grown up sons in a house in the Oliver's Battery area of Winchester, Hampshire which is close to local schools and shops. All areas of the property are registered for childminding although children use the downstairs area where there are toilet facilities. Access to the premises is good. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play. The family have pet turtles.

The childminder is registered to provide care for children from nought to eight years. Three may be in the early years age group and one may be under one. There are currently six children on roll who attend (full time/part time). Four of these children are in the early years age range.

The childminder is a member of the Winchester Childminding group.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is inadequate. Children are cared for in a welcoming, family environment where their routine care needs are sufficiently well met. All children are valued and included. The childminder has a sound attitude to making improvements and has implemented some of the recommendations raised at her last inspection. However, she lacks knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requirements which means that children are not fully protected and are making little progress in their learning. Some policies and procedures are not in place or are insufficiently robust to ensure children's welfare needs are fully met.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- devise and implement effective safeguarding and complaints procedures, in line with the EYFS, to ensure that children are fully protected. (safeguarding and promoting children's welfare-also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 13/06/2009
- increase knowledge and understanding of safeguarding children, including local procedures, to enable a quick referral to be made if required. 13/06/2009

(safeguarding and promoting children's welfare-also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)

- obtain written permission from parents or carers, to the seeking of any necessary emergency treatment or advice in the future. (documentation)

13/06/2009

- increase knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. Use this knowledge to develop systems for the observations and assessments of children's learning and development so that these can be used to plan enjoyable and challenging experiences that are tailored to meet children's individual needs. (educational programmes)

13/06/2009

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- work with parents and other providers of the EYFS, to obtain and share information about children's interests and capabilities.
- ensure that the fire blanket is correctly attached to the wall, to allow quick and effective operation.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

A small range of policies and procedures are in place and this ensures that some aspects of children's welfare are reasonably well met. This information is shared with parents, as are records of accidents or any medication administered. Registers are completed daily. The childminder ensures that her first aid qualification is kept up to date, although she does not obtain written permission from parents to seek emergency treatment or advice. The childminder does not have a complaints policy or keep parents informed of how to contact the regulatory body. The safeguarding children policy is ineffective and the childminder lacks knowledge of child protection procedures or how to contact her local children's services. Consequently, children are not fully protected.

The childminder has not yet started to gain information about the learning and development requirements of the EYFS. She therefore lacks sufficient knowledge and understanding of how to complete observations and assessments and to fully implement a clear planning system which meets the learning needs of the children. The childminder has not completed any formal self-evaluation, but is able to identify some of her own strengths and weakness.

The childminder is beginning to form sound working relationships with parents and to provide support for children's individual needs. The childminder speaks to parents about their children each day and gives feedback about how they have been or what they have done. However, she does not yet gather information about children's starting points, or use information about children's abilities, interests or time spent in other settings, to plan their individual next steps.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has established caring relationships with the children, who are settled and happy. Children play with and make choices from the small range of resources stored in the boxes in the playroom. The childminder does not care for very young children so resources available are for the three year olds upwards. Older children are able to ask for particular games and puzzles or confidently select the construction toys, cars or dolls. They talk with the childminder about the number of wheels on the cars, look at books about their bodies and enjoy making music with the keyboard. They visit local parks or soft play areas. Children are provided with opportunities to interact with adults and other children when they meet up with other childminders and their minded children.

Children play and learn in a reasonably safe and clean environment. Children learn about crossing the road safely as they walk home from school. Smoke alarms are checked regularly. There is a fire blanket in place, although it is not attached to the wall to ensure effective and quick operation. An evacuation procedure has been practised with children although no record is kept. Children learn to wash their hands before eating or after using the toilet. They are provided with healthy meals and snacks such as fruit or yoghurts. Drinks are offered regularly and children may request them at any time. All children are welcomed into the setting and they are beginning to learn to share and take turns. Children with particular needs are provided with support and strategies are in place for the management of children's behaviour.

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?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
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?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	4
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
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?	4

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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 (arrangements for safeguarding children and procedure for dealing with complaints) 13/06/2009

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 (arrangements for safeguarding children and procedure for dealing with complaints) 13/06/2009