

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY234909
Inspection date	20/01/2009
Inspector	Bridget Copson

Type of setting	Childminder
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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 2003. She lives with her husband and two children aged three and six in the Southbourne area of Bournemouth, Dorset. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years, two of whom may be in the early years age group. The childminder is currently caring for five children under eight, one of whom is in the early years age group. The family keep two guinea pigs.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children's individual needs are met effectively and they are making good progress through the Early Years Foundation Stage. Their interests are supported well and they see a positive reflection of themselves within the setting to support their sense of belonging. The childminder has made improvements to the quality of care she provides and to promote outcomes for children. She is developing systems of evaluating her provision to further improve the quality of care and learning for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure children's learning is planned and assessed individually to support them in developing to their full potential in all areas
- develop the self-evaluation system to identify all weaknesses to further improve outcomes for children.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder uses policies, procedures and records to ensure children are cared for safely and effectively. She uses her knowledge of child protection to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded at all times. The childminder organises herself and her home well to meet children's needs effectively. As a result, children play freely and independently within a clean and safe environment and they are supported well at all times.

The childminder has some systems to evaluate the quality of her provision. She keeps notes of what weaknesses can be addressed and the changes that have been implemented to improve outcome for children. For example, she has introduced a ribbon holding system to improve road safety on walks and involves older children in actively improving behaviour at home. However, this systems

does not ensure she is fully informed of all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements to further improve outcomes for children.

Children benefit from the successful partnerships established with parents. The childminder provides an information pack for parents which includes brief policies and procedures, her certificates and references. Parents provide information relating to their child's care and preferences and agreements are made to ensure consistency of care. They are informed of any special events to allow them to contribute. Parents are kept informed through daily diaries when required, discussion throughout the day and displays.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are provided with a good balance of both child led and organised activities to promote all areas of their learning and development. The well-organised play environment ensures they can move about freely between rooms and choose from a good range of age appropriate play provision to support their independent play. Children's interests and preferences are supported well and used to promote their development. For example, learning to problem solve and count with puzzles and extending language development through role play. The childminder carries out some observational assessment to monitor children's progress through close interaction in their play. As children develop she extends challenges to keep them progressing. However, these systems do not ensure each child's learning is planned and assessed on an individual level to ensure they develop to their full potential across all areas of learning. The childminder has started to develop positive links with other child care settings which children attend to promote consistency of care and learning.

Children are happy and active in the childminder's care and are developing good independence. They play with confidence and focus well on their chosen activities. Children communicate well through listening and answering questions, and talking freely in role play, discussions around the lunch table and about what they are doing in activities. Children enjoy problem solving. For example, completing different puzzles and games, in which they use their knowledge of shape, size and picture images to succeed. They use their creative skills in craft activities, cookery and with music. They use their imaginations well with the many role play and small world resources. Children behave well and demonstrate positive attitudes towards others through taking turns and sharing. They are developing an awareness of diversity through the play provision they use which reflects positive images of different cultures, backgrounds and needs. Older children are encouraged to take some responsibility in how they are treated through making 'Golden Rules' posters which are displayed around the house.

Children's welfare is safeguarded effectively by the childminder. She maintains good standards of safety through carrying out regular risk assessments at home and ensuring all safety measures are in place. She conducts risk assessments for outings, as well as road and car safety, to keep children safe when away from the house. Children are supported well in learning about keeping safe at home through safe play and learning the 'Green Cross Code' on walks. Children's health is

promoted well through the provision of a clean and hygienic environment and a healthy diet. Their physical development and fitness is promoted effectively. Children attend weekly ballet lessons, use the local parks and play with a good range of equipment in the garden and indoors.

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.