

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	112872
Inspection date	20/01/2009
Inspector	Amanda Shedden
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 1986. She lives with her husband in the Hedge End area of Hampshire. The ground floor of the home is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed rear garden.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children. She is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently three children in the early years age group and five children attending after school, all of whom attend on a part time basis. The childminder walks to and from local schools to take and collect children.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are safe and secure; they enjoy their time spent at the childminder's, who has a good understanding of their individual needs. This is achieved through good communication with the parents and by observing the children. Children's learning and development is progressing although the observations and assessments have not been fully developed to clearly identify the child's next steps. All children are fully included as the childminder provides a range of suitable activities for all stages of development and she ensures that all children can fully participate. The childminder monitors her provision and adjusts her practice for the benefit of the children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the observations and assessments to identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating experiences for each child
- further develop the systems to share information about the children's next learning steps with parents and other providers

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has effective systems in place to ensure that children are safeguarded. Risk assessments are in place inside the home and when they are out in the community to minimise potential hazards. Children practise the evacuation procedure and discussions are promoted by the childminder to ensure that children gain an understanding and remember what they must do if an evacuation was necessary.

The childminder has undertaken courses to extend her knowledge further, for instance the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). She has made adjustments to her practice since reviewing and evaluating the provision to further enhance the

care and education of the children in her care.

The childminder has very good long term relationships with the parents. They appreciate the care she provides for their children and are confident in her abilities to care for their child according to their wishes. Time is taken each day to discuss the child's day and they are aware of the records kept on their child. They do not, however, contribute their knowledge of their child to help identify the child's next steps in learning.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and secure in the childminder's home. The childminder and children get on very well, she is aware of their individual needs and arranges her day to ensure those needs are met. They enjoy having cuddles and the childminder is very good at interpreting young children's noises and expressions to ensure they are well cared for. Children are making progress towards the early learning goals. Each child has a learning journal where the childminder has undertaken observations, however, the individual child's next step is not identified and this information is not used effectively to support the planning of activities to ensure that they continue to progress. The childminder uses her knowledge of the children to extend the children's learning through day to day activities, for instance by talking clearly to the children to enable them to build upon their vocabulary. The children enjoy a wide range of adult-led and child-initiated activities. The childminder chooses the resources on display according to which children she is caring for each day, however, they are encouraged to choose additional resources from the wide range that are stored in another area.

Children's good health is promoted by the childminder. She stores the children's meals supplied by the parents appropriately and she offers the children regular drinks and healthy snacks. They are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times and paper towels are used to prevent cross infection. Each day they have access to fresh air, they walk to pre-school each day and use local parks or the garden where they have opportunities to enhance their physical development.

Parents and children are aware of the house rules and the childminder has different strategies in place according to the child's level of understanding to ensure that the children gain an understanding of why there are rules. The childminder has a sound understanding of child protection and parents are aware of her responsibilities. She has a current first aid certificate and all necessary permissions are in place to ensure that if a child had an accident they would be treated immediately and correctly.

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?	2
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
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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 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.