

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY304974
Inspection date	14/01/2009
Inspector	Helen Penticost

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 2005. She lives with her husband and two children aged three and one years, in Southwater, West Sussex. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and one first floor bedroom for sleeping. Toilet facilities are located upstairs. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play including an outdoor playroom.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding two children in the early years age range, one child a part-time basis and the other full time. She walks or drives to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local toddler group and local childminding group. The family has two rabbits. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and receives support from the local authority. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment where children's individual needs are highlighted and met. Effective procedures, such as completing risk assessments, are in place to keep children safe. However, a breach of the conditions of registration has occurred. Effective systems are in place to observe children's development and to plan for their individual future learning needs.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the planning of activities to stimulate and challenge younger children
- ensure that regular fire drills are carried out and details recorded in a fire log of any problems encountered and how they were resolved

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure that Ofsted is kept informed, in writing, of any significant event (Organisation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 16/01/2009
- comply with the conditions of registration at all times (Organisation) (also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register) 14/01/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a thorough understanding of how to safeguard children from harm and has a good awareness of signs and symptoms and the procedures to follow in the event of her having any concerns. She gathers information from parents to ensure that all needs are met and details of children's welfare are in place. Records are well maintained and they undergo regular reviews to ensure information is current. A concise portfolio is in place, which contains an excellent range of policies and procedures in support of all aspects of the provision. Written records of children's achievements are shared with parents enabling the childminder and parents to work together to promote all aspects of welfare to a consistent standard. As well as the indoor play spaces, children also have access to an outdoor playroom, which is fully equipped with toys, resources and equipment.

The childminder has not kept Ofsted informed in writing of changes within the household which has led to a breach of her conditions. However, this does not impact on the care of the children. The childminder is aware of supervising children at all times and has carried out written risk assessments. Fire safety equipment is in place, however, the childminder has not yet practised her fire evacuation procedure with the children.

Children are well nourished as the childminder provides all meals and snacks for children and she shows a strong understanding of the need for a healthy diet. The childminder is also registered with her local authority as a food business. The childminder enables children to learn how to behave acceptably in a variety of different social situations, which develops their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder uses a variety of techniques to help children understand right from wrong and positive interactions from the childminder encourages good harmonious relationships between children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder's knowledge of child development and the Early Years Foundation Stage is good and she has strong documents in place to record all children's development. She uses tracker books in conjunction with scrap books, which contain photos and full written observations. She plans activities around themes stemmed from children's desires, interests and learning needs. Written weekly planning is available, detailing outings to toddler groups as well as other activities that the children like to undertake. She has identified within her self-evaluation, that the younger children would benefit from the childminder attending training in planning activities for this age group.

Good quality adult interaction helps children become active, independent learners, for example, children are purposefully occupied with a good selection of age appropriate toys and play activities. She provides good support and gives lots of praise and encouragement to children at all times. Children enjoy daily outdoor play in an appropriate nearby location, in the garden or in the outdoor playroom. They help with tasks, such as taking their snack pots and drinks cups to the

kitchen and the childminder thoroughly encourages good manners. The childminder encourages good relationships between her own and the minded children and they get on well. She shows a good level of affection and care to all children and they are confident to explain their needs, such as requiring a tissue. This shows that the children feel secure in the home and that they show attachment to the childminder.

The childminder is an excellent speech model, which is reflected in the way very young children speak confidently to each other with clarity. Children have lots of opportunities to make marks on paper and through the use of resources, which encourages small muscle movements. There are good opportunities for children to use counting and numbers during their daily and play routines, which helps children understand the use of numbers in their lives. Children concentrate well on their chosen activity and are proud to show their achievements, which are praised by the childminder. Many toys promote fine motor skills and the childminder adapts planned activities so that children of different ages and abilities can participate. Children develop their imagination through activities, such as role play, dressing-up and in the play kitchen, which is fully resourced with cooking equipment and play food.

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.	2

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?	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:

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 (Organisation) 14/01/2009

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:

- ensure that Ofsted is informed of changes of circumstance (Organisation) 16/01/2009

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.