

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY302373
Inspection date	09/03/2009
Inspector	Judith Reed
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 2004. She lives with her husband and children aged sixteen and five years in Warsash, Hampshire. Most childminding takes place on the ground floor. The childminder's home is accessible and a ground floor toilet is available. A rear garden is available for outside play. The childminder has a pet dog, two cats, some tortoises and some tropical fish.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently caring for five children in this age group, mainly on a part-time basis. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 13 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder takes and collects children to and from local schools. The childminder also supports children with learning difficulties.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are happy, settled and learning in the childminder's home. The childminder ensures she gets to know all the children well and works closely with their parents to meet their individual needs. She values the process of self-evaluation as a method of reviewing her practice, as well as improving outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop records of observations and share them with parents to set help targets for future learning

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder completes ongoing self-evaluation and keeps up to date with her training. She uses the evaluation of her practice to effectively target future developments and plan training accordingly. Children benefit from the ongoing development of the childminding practice.

Partnership with parents is good and the childminder builds close working relationships with them. She liaises with parents on a constant basis, getting to know the families and supporting them when required. The childminder does not yet share records of children's early years development and learning, or discuss targets for future learning. Parents state that they are very pleased with the care provided by the childminder and that children are relaxed in her care. Parents also

state that children enjoy their time with the childminder and when they collect their children they enter a household which is 'full of laughter and lovely food smells'.

Children are safeguarded as the childminder has all necessary policies and procedures in place. She carries out frequent risk assessments and takes all necessary steps to keep children safe. Children are protected from dangers within the home by suitable use of stair gates in the kitchen doorway and at the bottom of the stairs. The outer doors of the childminder's home are kept locked at all times.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have fun with the childminder. They join in a wide range of activities including singing, reading books, construction, and imaginative play. Children particularly love to share books with the childminder and the childminder knows their favourites. The childminder has a book called 'There was an old lady who swallowed a fly' together with a soft doll and appropriate creatures. Children listen carefully to the story and put the required fly, spider or cat into the lady's mouth, following the tale. Children also observe the pictures in the book and point out the lady's umbrella. Children also enjoy further story books and they talk about what can be seen in the pictures. The childminder makes plans for some activities and ensures all necessary resources are available such as when singing along with a DVD. Activities are planned around individual children and this aids the smooth running of the setting. The childminder ensures plans are suitable and children with learning difficulties are fully included. The childminder is beginning to make observations of children's learning, although more detail is required as well as information on the six areas of learning.

The childminder ensures that all play areas are clean, safe and well maintained. She helps the children know and adhere to thorough personal hygiene routines. All necessary steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection. Individual hand drying towels are available in the downstairs toilet and the childminder ensures she wears gloves for nappy changes. The childminder provides good quality, fresh food for the children and promotes a varied diet. Menus are displayed for parents and children to see. Good table manners are promoted. The childminder also encourages exercise and all children do a great deal of walking and as much outdoor play as the climate will allow. The children learn about keeping safe by having some safety rules and the childminder ensures that everyone fully understands them. The children are encouraged to play together and share and the childminder explains to them about taking turns in activities and respecting others. She offers the children a variety of resources and appropriate learning experiences which are kept clean and well maintained.

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?	1
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
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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.