

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY290078
Inspection date	29/01/2009
Inspector	Anne Mitchell
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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 and lives with her husband and their three children in Bitterne area of Southampton. All areas of the property are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden which is available for outside play. The family have a rabbit and a cat.

She is registered on the Early Years Register, as well as the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of five children may attend at any one time. There are currently seven children on roll. Of these, four are in the early years age group. The childminder also cares for children over eight years of age.

The childminder holds the Diploma in Home Based Childcare.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children's needs are met by the childminder who provides effective emotional support and a range of suitable activities to promote their development. They are happy and settled and their independence is encouraged from an early age.

The childminder has limited systems in place to monitor the provision, and areas for development are not currently identified.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop systems to monitor practice
- ensure activities help children to progress to their next steps of development
- improve knowledge and understanding of early learning goals and how to develop activities for children to promote their learning.

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

- provide a record of the risk assessment clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident
(Documentation)

05/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder continues to update her training to promote positive outcomes for children. She maintains clear and well organised records on medication, accidents and daily attendance. Records are kept securely to maintain confidentiality. The

childminder has developed written policies and procedures, including a comprehensive risk assessment and a record of emergency evacuation practises, but these are not dated, as required.

The childminder liaises closely with parents to discuss children's progress, routines and changing needs. This relationship also provides the childminder with an insight into her strengths, but there are currently no secure systems in place to monitor the provision and highlight areas for development. The childminder has a secure knowledge and understanding of safeguarding children so they are well protected from harm and neglect.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's health and safety is well supported. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals, with drinking water available at all times so children are well hydrated. Children enjoy a good level of emotional support to promote their feeling of security. They enjoy regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise using the garden in all weathers, and through visits to local parks. Children learn to keep themselves safe through good use of discussion and reinforcement. There are clear procedures followed to ensure they are safe on outings. Children are encouraged to look and listen for cars, and road safety is discussed to help them understand further.

Children's behaviour is good. The childminder uses lots of praise and encouragement to reinforce good manners, so even very young children say 'please' and 'thank you' spontaneously. The use of 'good behaviour' awards also encourages children to behave well.

Children are able to select toys independently from floor level toy boxes. They enjoy a good level of interaction throughout the day. They roll the play dough into balls, and the childminder encourages them to repeat words after her. Consequently, children's language development is progressing well. The childminder hides a ball under one of three cups and the child guesses where the ball has gone, laughing as she finds the ball again. Children have access to a suitable range of play experiences including cooking and craft activities. The childminder provides activities and play that promote children's learning but does not fully appreciate how they support particular areas of development, so children's learning is coincidental. The childminder is beginning to develop very brief observations to provide a picture of their development but these provide little indication of next steps for development.

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?	3
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?	2

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?	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?	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.