

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY314339
Inspection date	19/02/2009
Inspector	Michele, Karen Beasley

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 partner and their pre-school and school aged child in a house in Southsea. The premises are easily accessible from the road, close to local schools, shops and parks. Minded children have access to the ground floor of the property and upstairs, except for the master bedroom. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play. The family have two cats.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than two may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding five children in this age group. She also offers care to three children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder collects children from the local school and pre-school. She attends a toy library, Sure Start groups, boogie mites and children's centres, on a regular basis. She is a qualified, accredited childminder and is member of an approved childminding network. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding. The childminder promotes aspects of children's welfare, learning and development exceptionally well to ensure they are safe and progress through the early learning goals. She has an in-depth knowledge about adapting the environment, activities and resources to ensure all children are wholly involved. Records of children's progress and partnership with parents are key strengths, which contribute very highly to ensuring children's needs are met. The childminder uses self-evaluation to identify key strengths and weaknesses, which she is very proactive to address.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- continuing to build on and maintain effective working partnerships with parents, carers and other agencies in relation to children's learning and development

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has addressed all her previous recommendations in full. She is committed to promoting children's welfare and supporting their learning and development. Children are secure and happy in her care because she is exceptionally organised and professional in her approach to childminding. A

comprehensive and detailed range of policies and procedures provides a very strong written framework for the provision. These are shared with parents so they have a good understanding of the ethos and organisation of the setting. The childminder makes regular, formal written risk assessments of the home to check there are no hazards that present a danger to children. The childminder has successfully completed an extensive number of relevant workshops and courses to further her knowledge and childcare qualifications. She is committed to ensuring her provision is inclusive to all children and families. The childminder demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, which enables her to promote all outcomes for children. She has devised and uses systems to enable her to liaise with other early years providers. However, this is still in its infancy. She recognises this as an area of improvement in order to wholly meet the needs of the children. The childminder is fully committed to improving her provision and has clearly identified areas for development on her self-evaluation form. The childminder actively obtains views from parents and children through verbal feedback and questionnaires, acting on these to make improvements to her provision which are beneficial to all.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

All children have access to a wide range of labelled resources, activities and experiences that are suitable for their age and stage of development. The play and learning environment is well organised, bright and stimulating and covers all six areas of learning effectively. Children's independence is promoted well as they are encouraged to take off their own coats on arrival and select resources and games from the low level clear shelving and storage boxes. This successfully develops their decision making skills and freedom of choice. The childminder has an excellent understanding of the early learning goals and provides a very broad, well balanced programme of activities. Children listen and watch intently to the childminder as she reads a well loved story using a puppet as a prop. They enjoy playing with role-play food, pretending to make cups of tea and food on the role-play cooker. All children benefit from the exemplary, quality interaction from the childminder; she plays at their level, engaging them in purposeful conversation as they take part in activities. She plans opportunities for them to take their own photographs of the natural environment. Children visit local attractions and grow sun flowers, this helps the children understand to care for the environment. The childminder uses age appropriate discussion, explanations, books and activities to support what she does, such as, looking at stranger danger. Children are given opportunities to learn about festivities, such as, Eid and Chinese New Year. Children visit Gun Wharf to watch the Chinese lion dancers. The children develop their use of technological equipment, such as, computer keyboards and telephones, as these are regularly put out for the children to use and explore.

The childminder has an exceptional knowledge of children's learning and development needs. She makes extensive detailed written observations and takes photographs of the children engaged in activities to record their progress towards the early learning goals. These effective assessment systems clearly identify and record each child's steps of learning. This means that learning opportunities are not missed and parents are consistently informed of next steps, so they are

involved in this part of their child's learning and development. Children enjoy using a secure environment. The childminder has organised her home exceptionally well to provide plenty of space for children to free-flow from indoors to outdoors. The childminder ensures the children reap the benefits of the fresh air everyday. This complements the exceptionally high quality of care and education that the children receive, which gives them an excellent start and promotes positive outcomes. Children generally behave well. They are encouraged to use good manners and be respectful. All children are valued, respected and rewarded with stickers. The childminder helps children communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas and to develop relationships with others.

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?	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	1

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	1
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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.