

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY316252
Inspection date	22/01/2009
Inspector	Hazel Stuart-Buddery
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 2005. She lives with her partner and daughter in a three bedroom house in Farnborough, Hampshire. Children have access to the kitchen and lounge for their play and the bedrooms are used for rest. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play. Local parks, shops and schools are within easy walking distance. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for four children under eight years at any one time and currently has two children in the early years age group on roll. She attends local parent and toddler groups and children's activities. The family has a pet rabbit.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides a warm, welcoming and child-friendly environment. She interacts well with the children and effectively supports their welfare, learning and development. All children are included and the childminder works with parents and others to promote an inclusive practice. Children are fully safeguarded while they are in her care. She recognises the value and importance of self-evaluation and is proactive in developing her practice through ongoing training.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the systems for observing and assessing children's development, by clearly showing what the child's next stage of learning is within the early learning goals
- ensure resources are organised effectively and are easily accessible to allow children to self-select independently.

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

- ensure a written record is maintained of the date risk assessments are completed for the premises and all outings. (Suitable premises, environment and equipment)

05/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is committed to providing good care and education to the children. She talks with confidence about her own strengths and identifies some areas where she would benefit from further training. She is proactive in arranging courses to extend her knowledge and understanding in childcare practice and has recently completed a diploma in home-based childcare. She encourages parents to

be part of her self-evaluation process. Parents write comments in the complaints/compliments book on a regular basis, all of which are positive and indicate that they are happy with the care and education provided. The childminder works well with parents and pre-schools to ensure the individual needs of children are met. Written consent has been given to the pre-school by the parents to ensure all relevant information is shared with the childminder. The planned activities and play experiences complement and enhance what the children do at pre-school. Written and verbal information is exchanged daily about the progress and achievements of the children. Parents receive a full set of written policies and procedures that underpin the setting.

Children are safe and secure in a clean homely environment. Their welfare is fully safeguarded and all required parental consents are in place. The childminder advises that full risk assessments within the home and for all outings are undertaken, although written records of the date the checks are made are not maintained. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and of the procedures to follow should she have concerns.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They learn how to keep themselves safe as they take part in fire drills and listen carefully when asked to stay close to the childminder while out walking. They learn about healthy lifestyles as they have daily exercise and walk to and from pre-school. They enjoy healthy, balanced, home-cooked meals. Children are well behaved and respond positively to the constant praise and encouragement given to them by the childminder. They happily interact within the environment and show good levels of confidence and self-esteem.

The childminder supports the children well and divides her time appropriately between all the children. Children respond well to her and confidently communicate with her. The childminder provides a good range of age appropriate resources which are stored neatly in an upstairs room. The children confidently ask the childminder when they want to go upstairs and choose toys, although they depend on her to bring down the toys. The organisation of the resources does not fully provide an inclusive environment and children's independence is not fully promoted. Children enjoy playing with dolls and excitedly copy what the childminder is doing. As the childminder feeds the baby, the other children quickly get a bottle to feed their baby. They comment on needing to change the baby's nappy and smile happily as they confidently take off the doll's clothes. Children enjoy the interaction from the childminder and lap up the attention they receive when the baby goes to sleep. They enjoy playing floor games, such as snakes and ladders. The children enthusiastically lay out the large mat and choose a coloured counter. They confidently point out the large ladders and when asked point out the smaller ladders. They throw the large dice and confidently count the dots and move their counter accordingly. Children enjoy looking at photographs taken of themselves when they were a baby. They happily show visitors and explain that the cakes in the picture were for their birthday.

The childminder knows the children well and confidently talks about the progress they have made while they have been in her care. She has started to record children's achievements under the six areas of learning, although she has not clearly linked their progress to the early learning goals or identified within the records what their next steps are learning are. She has identified that this is an area for her own further 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?	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?	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:	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.