

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY376900
Inspection date	15/04/2009
Inspector	Catherine Hill
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 2008. She lives with her child, aged 15 years, in a semi-detached house in Farnborough, Hampshire. The home is near to local schools, parks and within walking distance of Farnborough town centre. Children have access to the sitting room, kitchen, conservatory and one of the bedrooms for sleeping purposes only. The bathroom is on the first floor. There is an enclosed secure garden available for outside play. The family has a guinea pig and rabbit. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five 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 minding three children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder provides a warm and welcoming home environment for children and works effectively with parents to ensure inclusive practice. Children are very happy and settled and have their individual needs taken into account, with the childminder sensitively supporting play. The childminder is generally well organised and has a range of documentation to support her practice, although not all required documentation is in place. She has a clear understanding of her role and is aware of some areas for development to further improve her practice.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop systems to monitor children's progress and achievements and use the information to identify, and plan for, their next steps in development
- develop self-evaluation systems, for example, by using the Ofsted self-evaluation form as the basis for an ongoing review of practice.

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

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment (Promoting good health)

30/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is kind, patient and attentive to minded children and continually interacts with them to ensure their needs are catered for. She has risk assessed her home and identified and minimised hazards so children can play safely. She

understands her responsibilities with regard to safeguarding children's welfare and shares her written policies and procedures with parents to keep them informed about her practice, although these do not include a complaints or safeguarding policy. Some information is displayed for parents within the home and this includes local authority information relating to child protection and Ofsted's poster for parents. Positive relationships have been established with parents and the childminder shares daily verbal information about their child's minded day. Most necessary consents have been obtained to ensure children are cared for appropriately, although the childminder does not have written consent to seek emergency treatment or advice, which is a breach of welfare requirements. The childminder is enthusiastic and is proactive in attending training to further her knowledge and skills. For example, she has attended training on how to support children with English as an additional language to provide an improved service for children in her care. She continually reflects on her practice to ensure children's needs are being met, although there is no formal self-evaluation system in place.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children play happily and are at ease within the safe and secure environment of the childminder's home. They are securely harnessed into the high chair as they eat and develop an understanding of hygiene procedures as they wash their hands, for example after using the toilet. Regular outings in the fresh air and the provision of a varied diet help promote children's good health. Children's opportunities to enjoy and achieve are good. The childminder skilfully interacts with children as they play and uses different strategies to further develop children's learning. For example, she asks children questions to make them think and demonstrates to very young children how to use a rolling pin to roll the dough before then encouraging them to try themselves. Children grow in self-esteem and confidence and jump for joy as the childminder praises and acknowledges their achievements, for example as they correctly identify written numbers. They show an interest in books as they freely select them and sit, carefully turning the pages to look at the pictures. The childminder helps children develop their vocabulary as she encourages children to repeat words after her, using mime and real objects to reinforce the meaning of some words.

Children play well together and their behaviour is very good as they are happily occupied and appropriately supported by the childminder. They show an understanding of how things work as they play with musical instruments, pressing buttons to make music play and dancing along to the tune. They have fun as they play with large building blocks and confidently join pieces together to build a tower. The childminder asks them what colour the blocks are and they correctly identify red. Children relax as they play and spontaneously sing songs, such as 'Twinkle, twinkle little star'. They move freely around the minding areas and develop in independence as they choose what they play with. For example, they show good control and coordination as they push wheeled toys from the conservatory through to the kitchen and sit at child-size furniture to model with dough. The childminder has started to maintain observation records of children's play and development, although these do not currently record their next step in learning, and these are shared with parents. She is attending training to further

develop her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage so that she can further develop her provision for children's learning and development. Children have good relationships with the childminder and have daily opportunities to progress in all skill areas as they access a variety of play resources and activities.

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.	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?	3

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?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
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:

- make available to parents written statements that provide details of the procedures to be followed if they have a complaint and the procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect.
(Providing information to parents)

30/04/2009

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:

- make available to parents written statements that provide details of the procedures to be followed if they have a complaint and the procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect
(Providing information to parents)

30/04/2009

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 registration.

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.