

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	111285
Inspection date	06/07/2009
Inspector	Susan Mann

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 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 1999. She is registered to care for a maximum of six children under the age of eight years, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range at any one time. On certain days, the childminder is permitted to care for up to five children in the early years age range. She currently cares for 14 children under the age of eight years, of whom nine are in the early years age range. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder lives in a house in the village of Barton Stacey with her husband and son. The family have three cats. The house has wheelchair access. The whole house is registered for childminding and there is a secure garden available for outdoor play. There are toileting facilities downstairs and sleeping facilities are on the first floor. The childminder lives near shops, schools and parks. 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 fully recognises the uniqueness of each child and she provides exemplary practice to meet their individual needs completely. Children make excellent progress towards the early learning goals because the childminder plans and delivers superb activities that children find fun and interesting. The childminder puts a high emphasis on working closely with parents and other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) so that children enjoy a collaborative and well informed approach to their care and education. The provision is inspirational, and the childminder promotes continuous improvement very well through an extensive process of self-evaluation.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to evaluate and enhance the provision to foster children's welfare and development.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is dedicated to her role. She is exceptionally efficient and adopts a highly professional approach to childminding. She has a wealth of relevant experience and continually develops her own knowledge through planning further training. The childminder monitors her provision thoroughly so that it continues to improve and develop. She has high aspirations for the quality of the provision and has evaluated every aspect of the provision so that children's experiences are always very good. Parents and children are included in this process so that it is

wholly representative of all users. All recommendations made at the previous inspection have been fully addressed. Children's welfare is safeguarded extremely well because the childminder is very knowledgeable about child protection procedures. She has attended training, and a wealth of informative documentation and written procedures provide excellent support to this part of the provision.

All documentation is meticulously updated so that it is in line with current requirements. An extensive range of written policies provide a comprehensive framework for the provision to foster consistently excellent practice. These are shared with parents so they know the ethos and procedures of the childminder. Children are safe and secure because the childminder ensures all hazards are properly dealt with. There is an exemplary system of risk assessment, which covers all areas of the home and outings so that children are always safe.

The childminder has established excellent links with parents and other providers of the EYFS. Parents value the warm and enabling partnership offered by the childminder. They contribute to their child's Learning Journal and liaise with the childminder to ensure assessment of progress is consistent at home and at the setting. When children also attend a pre-school or nursery, the childminder has parent consent to discuss their development so that children's learning is comprehensively addressed. The childminder ensures that each child enjoys a wealth of superb experiences, which are presented in a wholly inclusive and enabling manner. Children learn about their local community and the wider world through exciting activities, such as 'story walks' around the village and matching paints to their own skin tones.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children make excellent progress in their learning and development. The childminder demonstrates exemplary interaction with each child. She listens intently to what they have to say and works at their physical level with a relaxed and encouraging manner. She is sensitive to their individual needs. For example, when a child wishes to concentrate on a puzzle, the childminder encourages the other children to play elsewhere so he can enjoy a quiet moment to enjoy and complete it. The learning environment is exceptionally well planned. There is a wealth of superb resources provided at child height so that they can select what they wish. This fosters their independence and ability to make choices. The childminder has organised the space in her home very well so that children have plenty of space to play.

Each child makes excellent progress through the EYFS because the childminder knows their abilities and interests extremely well. She makes accurate observations of their play and uses these to plan their next steps of learning so they progress at their own pace. There is a superb mix of child-initiated and planned adult-led play, which means that children are wholly engaged and motivated to learn whilst with the childminder. For example, children enjoy playing with and matching pictures and models of insects before settling down to read a story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

Children thrive in the care of the childminder. She promotes their health extremely well through exemplary hygiene procedures and practices. Children learn to foster excellent habits to promote their own good health. For example, they use antiseptic hand gel from a dispenser when they wash their hands to limit the spread of infection, and they play outdoors in the fresh air each day to foster their physical well-being. Children develop superb understanding of how to keep themselves safe through undertaking their own personal risk assessments whilst out, and through learning about road safety.

Children demonstrate superb relationships with one another and with the childminder. She is an excellent role model for them to follow because she is calm and cheerful and she shows the utmost great respect for every child. Children manage their behaviour well because they understand the house rules of the childminder and they are busy and focused on what they are doing. They demonstrate exceptional care and consideration for one another, and are learning to be extremely confident and self-assured.

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

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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