

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	112723
Inspection date	30/06/2009
Inspector	Susan Mann
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 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 has been registered since 1993. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to provide care for six children under eight years at any one time, including no more than three children in the early years age range. At present, she provides part-time care for three children aged under eight years, of whom one child is in the early years age range.

The childminder lives with her husband and three children, two of whom are teenagers, in West Totton, Hampshire. Her home is within walking distance of local amenities including schools, shops and parks. All areas of the property are available for childminding and there are toileting and sleeping facilities on the first floor. However, children are usually cared for on the ground floor. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is a member of the Southampton Childminders Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is outstanding. The childminder is dedicated to the well-being of each child and fully recognises the uniqueness of each child. She is committed to continuous improvement and has recently undertaken a wealth of training to enhance her knowledge and skills. Children make exceptional progress towards the early learning goals because the childminder provides inspirational provision which children find both challenging and fun. All children benefit from the superb partnership which is fostered by the childminder with both parents and other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

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 develop partnership links with other providers of the EYFS to provide a collaborative approach to children's learning and development.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder offers inspirational provision which recognises the uniqueness of each child. She takes great care to get to know children and their families so that children feel secure and comforted when the minding agreement begins. Children receive exceptional support from the childminder to help them settle well at school or pre-school. All of their needs are known and met completely. The childminder has superb partnership with parents to foster consistency between home and setting. There is daily sharing of useful information about well-being and

development, as well as regular opportunities for parents to give feedback on the provision. Parents express extreme satisfaction with the provision.

The childminder has exceptional organisation which supports the efficiency and high quality of her provision. The framework of the setting is underpinned by an extensive range of informative policies and procedures which are shared with parents so that all know the ethos and practice of the provision. All documentation is meticulously kept so that correct records are maintained. Comprehensive risk assessments are documented to ensure that all areas used by children are checked daily to ensure they are free from hazards. The childminder has excellent procedures in place for safeguarding children's welfare.

The childminder is dedicated to ensuring children enjoy the highest standard of care and education. She constantly monitors the provision and identifies areas of strength, and areas for development through self-evaluation. The childminder is very experienced and undertakes regular training to enhance her knowledge and skills further. The recommendation made at the previous inspection has been addressed completely.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have fun with the childminder. She gives her whole attention to them in superb interactions. Children make excellent progress in their learning and development. They enjoy a wealth of exciting activities which suit their needs and interests completely. The childminder makes frequent observations on children's play so that she can plan their next steps of learning. This system is exemplary, and clearly shows children's achievement and highlights future areas to provide interest and challenge. The childminder summarises children's progress, which gives parents clear explanation of how their child is progressing in each area of learning. The childminder has put superb systems in place to collaborate with other providers of the EYFS, and is developing this further so that all relevant providers are included. This means that children benefit from a wholly consistent approach to their learning and development.

Children enjoy an excellent mix of child-initiated and adult-led play. The childminder demonstrates exemplary practice and is sensitive to children's needs. For example, children enjoy a story with the childminder after a morning at pre-school. They enjoy the story and at the end the childminder encourages them to think about the pictures and their opinion of the story which enhances their learning and development.

Children flourish in the care of the childminder. She puts high emphasis on their physical and emotional well-being, and promotes healthy eating and hygienic practice at all times. Children learn how to keep themselves safe in highly effective ways. For example, they practise how to cross the road safely when out, and they discuss issues such as becoming lost through reading specific story books with the childminder. Children are given exceptional assistance to boost their self-confidence and self-esteem. The childminder values their contributions greatly, and

gives them meaningful encouragement and praise. She fully respects each child as an individual, and takes great care to ensure they are happy and comfortable.

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
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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