

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	115105
Inspection date	11/06/2009
Inspector	Coral Hales
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 was registered in 1994 and lives with her three teenage children in Goring-by-Sea in West Sussex. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The whole of the house except for the bedrooms are used by the children and there is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six 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 two children in this age group. She also cares for children in the later years age range. The childminder drives to local schools to take and collect children. The family have a variety of pets.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Service.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children are comfortable and settled in the childminder's care. She effectively promotes an inclusive environment; she values and respects individual children, ensures that all are included in the play and raises their awareness of the needs of others. The childminder has limited knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and does not have the pack and therefore has not implemented it. The childminder has developed effective and close working relationships with parents and other professionals. She understands the reason for evaluating her practice but has not yet developed any written systems to help her to identify areas where she could improve outcomes for children, instead relying on verbal feedback from parents to inform her. However, this is not fully effective in helping her to identify priorities for improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- update knowledge and understanding of safeguarding children issues and be able to implement the safeguarding children policy and procedures to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded appropriately
- develop systems of self-evaluation to identify the settings strengths and priorities for development that will improve the quality of provision for all children
- review all policies and information supplied to parents to reflect the new Early Years Foundation Stage framework
- increase knowledge of the early learning goals to ensure planned activities incorporate each area of learning to enable all children to be stimulated and challenged in their development
- use observations and assessments made of children to identify learning

priorities and match these to the expectations of the early learning goals so it is clear to see the progress they make during the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

- make a record of risk assessments clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (W1.1 Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

10/07/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are well cared for by the childminder who demonstrates through her calm approach, that she can effectively meet children's welfare needs and discusses all aspects of care with parents. Effective links with the parents and other professionals ensure all children receive support with their learning. Parents are made aware of policies and procedures, however, some require updating in line with the new framework to ensure parents are given correct information.

The childminder has not yet developed robust systems to reflect her practice, although she is aware of weaknesses in the provision with regard to her limited knowledge of how to implement the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The childminder visually risk assesses her premises and also considers risks when taking children out, however this is not recorded.

The childminder has an adequate understanding of safeguarding issues. She is however, not secure in her knowledge of the Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance to ensure correct procedures are followed.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are making satisfactory progress in their learning. The childminder shows a suitable understanding of how they are developing individually and she shares this with parents on a daily basis. During inspection the childminder did not clearly demonstrate her knowledge of the early learning goals or how to implement meaningful observation systems. Children's progress is therefore not always effectively monitored to show their next steps in learning.

The childminder informally plans her day and relies on the children's ideas and then provides activities that they are interested in. However, sometimes children watch television rather than choosing more challenging activities. Children are given time to develop in their own ways and make independent choices enabling them to initiate their own play ideas. For example, they decide to create using the play dough and involve the childminder in their play. Their language and listening skills are encouraged and developed by the childminder's constant interaction with

the children. Children receive a lot of attention from the childminder who boosts their self-esteem, confidence and independence with her positive responses to them. Children learn to respect their peers and value their differences as the childminder has cared for several children with special needs. They enjoy looking through photographs of other children playing.

Children enjoy going out into the community, to for example, take part in pond dipping, walk in the countryside and observe any animals they see. Children enjoy exploring and investigating and look closely at a bees nest and are fascinated when the crab in the tank sheds its shell. Children behave well in response to the childminder's methods such as distraction or quiet discussion.

The childminder ensures children's health is promoted. They are learning to be responsible for their own personal hygiene and are becoming independent in their practices. Children have their health and dietary needs met because parents provide generally healthy foods and a selection of fruit. Drinks are available at all times. Children have positive attitudes to physical exercise and enjoy going out into the garden on a regular basis to use the varied selection of resources available.

Children are taught to become aware of dangers and begin to understand about how to keep themselves safe. Safety equipment including fire detection systems are fitted where required and an evacuation plan has been considered, however, not practised with children. The childminder talks to children about simple road safety procedures to ensure they are kept safe.

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?	3
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?	3
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?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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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:

- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (CR2 Arrangements for Safeguarding Children)

10/07/2009

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:

- take action as specified above

10/07/2009