

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	139693
Inspection date	12/05/2009
Inspector	Lindsay Ann Farenden
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).

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 1996. She lives with her husband, one adult child and two children aged 13 and 15-years-old in Sutton, Surrey. The childminder lives in a house where access to the toilet is on the ground floor. Children have access to all of the ground level except for the conservatory. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to provide care for three children under eight years and currently has two children in the early years age group on roll. The childminder is registered to provide care on the following registers: the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children's individual needs are met well and they play and move around it in a safe and secure environment. All children are valued for their uniqueness and individuality. A good two-way flow of information between the parents and the childminder ensures continuity of care for each child. The childminder's commitment to continuous improvement is well demonstrated through the completion of the self-evaluation document and her keenness to attend further training to increase her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop an understanding and knowledge of observation and assessment to further support children in moving onto to their next step of learning
- further develop risk assessments for individual outings and record when and by whom these have been checked
- provide parents with access to all written records about their child

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her home and resources well to actively stimulate the children's interests. She has devised a basic written risk assessment for both indoors and outside, but not for all individual outings. The childminder is though very vigilant about children's safety and has taken positive steps to ensure hazards are inaccessible to them in the home and to reduce the risks on outings. The policies and written records relating to the children are well organised and maintained, which contributes to their health and welfare.

The childminder gives parents verbal feedback about their child's progress and

provides a written diary detailing their child's daily routine, whilst in her care. Children learn to appreciate and value diversity through accessing a very good range of play resources reflecting positive images of race, culture and disability. Regular outings develop children's awareness of the local community. Children play well together and benefit from consistent praise and encouragement from the childminder.

The childminder has spent time developing an awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and committed to further develop her knowledge of it, particularly in relation to observation and assessment. She uses self-evaluation to identify key strengths and areas of development to promote positive outcomes for children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are very relaxed and happy within the childminder's home. They busily play with a wide range of resources which are set out for them on colourful rugs on the floor, building on their interests and natural curiosity as learners. Their hand and eye coordination is developed as they explore press button toys, slot in puzzle pieces and use shape sorters. They like looking at books and visits to the library actively encourage their interests in this area. Children have good opportunities to express themselves creatively through a wide range of media, such as drawing, painting, sticking and play dough. Children enjoy singing action songs and use their imaginations using play foods and tea sets. Children regularly enjoy a wide range of activities that contribute to their health and develop their physical skills. The childminder regularly takes children to toddler group where they socialise with others and access further activities which support children's learning across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The childminder fully embraces herself in children's play and knows them very well. The childminder does regular meaningful observations on each child and uses these successfully to plan activities to challenge them in their next stage of learning, although these have not yet been shared with parents.

The smoke alarms are in working order and the childminder has a clear fire evacuation procedure, which is practised with the children on regular basis. The childminder has attended a training course related to child protection issues and understands her responsibilities regarding safeguarding children's welfare. Children are taught how to use pelican crossings through explanations appropriate to their age and understanding.

The childminder has a well-stocked first aid box and holds a current first aid certificate. She has requested parental consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice, which safeguards children in the event of a serious accident or medical emergency. Children's health is protected because the childminder maintains very high levels of hygiene in her home. Meal times are a pleasant experience for children as they sit happily in their high chairs and enjoy foods provided by their parents.

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?	3
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

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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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