

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY317491
Inspection date	29/04/2009
Inspector	Lynne Elizabeth Lewington
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 2005. She lives with her partner and their child, in a terraced house in Yateley. The ground floor of the property is used for play and the bedrooms for rest. The property is close to local amenities and opposite local schools. There is an enclosed garden, level access and toilet facilities downstairs. The family have two cats.

The childminder is registered to care for five children under eight years, no more than three may be under five years at any one time. Currently two children under five years are on roll. She is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Child care Register. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the provision is good. Children benefit greatly from the warm nurturing care they receive from the childminder. Through good communication with parents and carers the childminder develops a sound understanding of the children's individual needs and adapts her care appropriately. This understanding, along with attractive resources helps to promote an inclusive environment for all children and their families. A keen awareness and interest in children's progress and development and a desire to offer the children an excellent service indicates that the childminder will continue to make improvements to the quality of the service she offers.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop awareness of the areas of learning and the early learning goals to help identify children's progress and development
- continue to promote an inclusive environment and develop awareness of the needs of children learning English as an additional language, use their home language when appropriate and ensure close teamwork with parents so that children's developing use of English and other languages support each other

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Self evaluation has enabled the childminder to identify her strengths and highlight areas where she feels she would like to update her knowledge and awareness. Positive steps have been implemented since the last inspection with regard to knowledge of safeguarding children and obtaining an up to date first aid certificate.

The childminder clearly understands her role in working in close partnership with parents and others to enable the children to feel secure and safe. Daily

communication with parents ensures they are kept well informed of their child's progress and activities. Photographs are taken regularly and displayed enabling parents to see what their children do each day. Clear policies help parents to understand the service offered.

Children are safeguarded very well. Clear information is displayed regarding child protection and the childminder is very clear in the action she would take if she was concerned about a child in her care. A comprehensive risk assessment of the premises and activities is undertaken and the childminder is very conscious of children's developing abilities and the need to constantly reassess. Children learn through their play about safe behaviours relevant to their ages and abilities. For example, a young child learns to negotiate the steps up to the slide safely with supervision. Children learn about safety as they play and through stories and activities.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Excellent measures are taken to promote children's health. The childminder works with parents to follow daily rest and feeding routines. She recognises the importance of routine for young children to enable them to feel contented and secure. Children enjoy healthy nutritious snacks and regular drinks to maintain energy levels and prevent dehydration. Each day the children have opportunities for outdoor activity in the well equipped garden enabling them to experience natural light, fresh air, develop their large movements and their senses. This contributes to their sense of well being.

High standards of hygiene are maintained throughout the premises and children learn to follow simple sensible hygiene routines to prevent the spread of germs.

The childminder encourages children's learning and development in all areas of learning through her keen interest in their development and the attractive age appropriate resources she provides. Resources reflect our diverse society and are easily accessible to the children. Records clearly indicate the children's progress however the childminder lacks confidence in relating the children's progress to the areas of learning.

Attractive outdoor equipment encourages the children's physical development. Fine movements and control develop as they play with water using a variety of containers. Babies enjoy the tactile experiences of items placed within their reach and respond with interest to the attention of the childminder and the activity going on around. Children's self confidence grows as they use the low level slide independently. Outings to local parks provide opportunities to run and experience large play equipment. Indoors fine movements are encouraged through the use of a broad range of age appropriate toys.

The childminder listens attentively and responds enthusiastically to children's sounds and words enabling the children to develop their language skills very well. However, currently the childminder is unable to recognise or use any words from a child's native language to support development of both the native language and English. Easily accessible fact and fiction books are used independently and read to

the children encouraging their awareness of the written word. Children have opportunities to make marks using a variety of resources including paint and crayons. Sorting and matching items encourage the children to develop their early mathematical development and they count as they sing songs and undertake many activities. Awareness of size, shape and position is encouraged throughout the activities.

The childminder is aware of children's interests and enables these to be developed. For example, a young child likes helicopters and so the childminder ensures she has resources which reflect this interest. Children develop their awareness of the weather and the seasons through their outdoor activities. They learn to treat animals respectfully and gently as they observe the kitten.

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?	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?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
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?	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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