

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY386324
Inspection date	04/08/2009
Inspector	Dorcas Forgan
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 registered in 2009. She is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her partner and their two children aged 19 months and seven years, in Braswell Common, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Shops, toddler groups, a park, library and other amenities lie within walking distance. The childminder can take children to and collect them from, local schools and pre-schools. The family has a dog.

Children use the ground floor of the home and the bathroom is on the first floor. A fully enclosed rear garden is available for outside play. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. Her registration permits her to care for a maximum of four children at any one time under eight years, two of whom may be in the early years age range. She currently minds five children, one in the early years age, they all attend on a part-time basis. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder has satisfactory systems in place to promote children's welfare, learning and development. She works very closely with the parents to ensure that she meets all the children's needs and that they are fully included. Children have formed a close and trusting relationship with the childminder. The childminder is committed to improving her provision. She has completed the self-evaluation and has identified areas that she wishes to improve, such as developing the range of activities she provides for the youngest children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- help and support children to develop good personal hygiene routines
- develop further the observations and assessments of the children to identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences for each child

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

- ensure that all necessary consent forms are in place for all children so that they are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

21/08/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has very comprehensive policies and procedures which she presents neatly in a file; all parents receive a copy so that they are well informed of her service. She has the required documentation with details about the children's individual needs, but not all the consent forms are in place. Following the childminders registration she has attended several training sessions including the Early Years Foundation Stage. She attends Sure Start Centres with the children so that they can socialise and develop their skills, and she can extend her knowledge and seek advice; she also frequently confers with her childminding buddy. The childminder has risk assessments in place which she reviews every two months or when there are new children, to ensure their safety. She has assessed that the garden is not safe at present as it is under going re-development. The childminder is part of the smile campaign to educate children about eating healthy options; but she has not begun to introduce the children to good personal hygiene routines. The childminder has started to carry out observations of the children and to assess their needs, which she records in a scrap book along with photos of children enjoying activities. She does not use these to plan the future development of individual children effectively.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has only been minding the younger children for a short while, she is still getting to know them and understand their needs. She has worked closely with the parents providing a settling in provision that suits them all. The parents complete a form with information about the child's routines. The childminder exchanges verbal information each day and backs this up by completing a daily diary, which parents also write in. The childminder also uses text messages and has a website with a webcam link available to the parents. These provide excellent opportunities for all to keep in touch and to be reassured. The childminder develops the daily routines around the families expectations. The children use all of the ground floor where they can access a basic range of activities that are suitable for them including musical instruments and books. The childminder plans to provide an activity that will incorporate one of the areas of learning each day, such as exploring the play dough, learning how to manipulate it, rolling, squashing and cutting out shapes. They have daily outings in the fresh air either walking in the local area or having a ride in the trailer on the back of the childminder's bike. The children develop their physical skills in various ways including yoga sessions at the Children's Centre which they thoroughly enjoy. The children come from a variety of other cultures; some are learning English as a second language. They are discovering and celebrating their different cultures and languages through sharing experiences, exchanging words and enjoying activities based on others festivals. The young children are learning how to share and take turns with other children, through the childminders close supervision and clear guidance. There are house rules that are on display for the older children.

The childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibility to protect children from harm. She has attended additional safeguarding training. Children are gaining

an understanding of how to keep themselves safe; they frequently practise the emergency evacuation procedure and how to act safely when walking near traffic.

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.	2

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?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

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:	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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