

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY383725
Inspection date	12/08/2009
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).

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 2008. She lives with her husband and two children aged seven and 10 years in Banstead, Surrey. The childminder is registered to care for five children under eight years. There are currently two children on roll in the early years age group. The childminder is registered to provide care on the following registers the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder lives in a house where access to the toilet is on ground floor. All areas of the home are available for childminding purposes. Childminding activities mainly take place in the rear reception room. The front reception room is used for quiet activities and as a sleep room for young children. There is a secure garden available for outdoor play.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children flourish in this childminding setting in which the childminder provides them with many opportunities to promote all aspects of their learning and development. The childminder treats all children as individuals recognising that they are unique with their own interests and needs. The childminder uses self-evaluation effectively to reflect on her childminding practice and constantly strives to improve the outcomes for children. The close working partnership with parents ensures they are kept well informed about their child's care and learning.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the range of play resources which promote children's awareness of diversity

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's care and learning is enriched by the childminder's enthusiasm, who plans each day so children experience a wide range of exciting activities and experiences both inside and outside of the home. The childminder clearly enjoys her role and this is reflected in the good quality of interaction between her and the children. All documentation is kept to a high standard. The well written policies and procedures guide the childminder in her daily practice and parents are provided with a copy of them. The childminder is very motivated to improve her childminding practice through further training.

Children are cared for in a very clean, safe and secure home environment. The childminder gives high priority to children's safety and has carried out thorough risk assessments of her home and individual outings children are taken out on. To protect children in the event of an emergency the childminder has a clear fire

evacuation procedure which is practised with them on a regular basis. A fire blanket is in the kitchen and smoke alarms are in working order. Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder has a secure knowledge of abuse and procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child.

The childminder provides children with a good role model as she talks to them in a friendly manner, giving them lots of praise and encouragement. Children behave exceptionally well because they are constantly busy and engaged in purposeful play. The childminder has a positive attitude to caring for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and is committed to provide a fully inclusive childminding provision for all children. Children access a range of resources which promote diversity.

The childminder works closely with the parents. An 'all about me' form is completed when the child first starts and this ensures the childminder is fully aware of their individual requirements and interests. All required parental consents are obtained from parents. The childminder gives parents verbal feedback at the end of the day and also completes a daily diary for parents giving them information about activities their child has done, food intakes and sleep times. When children leave, the childminder gives parents her folder on their child with information on observations of their achievements and a photo book which is a really super record of their child enjoying activities in the childminder's care.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children experience a very happy and welcoming child-orientated environment. Children access a good range of clean, quality toys and resources of which many are stored at a low level. This actively encourages children to make informed choices of what they want to play with. Children's art work is prominently displayed and shows them that their contributions are valued and in turn helps them to feel important and develop good self-esteem. The childminder knows each child she cares for and continually supports them in developing their skills and development. Regular discussions with parents about the childminder's observations of their child keep them well informed of their child's progress.

Children are provided with excellent opportunities to express their creativity. Children make large papier-mâché dinosaurs, make models of volcanoes and use recycled materials to make their own designs. They enjoy a wealth of painting and sticking activities. Children concentrate hard, as they mould and shape play dough using plastic tools and cutters. Children learn about measurements as they count cupfuls of ingredients during cooking activities.

Children develop a good awareness of the local and wider community through outings to various parks and visits to farms and the sea-side. Children had great fun on an outing to 'Box Hill' which is a National Trust nature area, where they set up a camp with their pop up tents and had a barbeque lunch. Children then use their imaginations very well based on real experiences as they set up camps in the childminder's house using bedding, a picnic basket of play food and pretend cooker. During the winter when it snowed children very much enjoyed making an

igloo in the snow.

Children take delight in planting and growing vegetables. They enjoy watering them and enjoy picking them to take home or eat at the childminder's. Children busily dig up potatoes and are thrilled when they find them and talk to the childminder about the different sizes of them. They talk with excitement about having them for their dinner. Children benefit from nutritious home cooked meals. The childminder ensures children are provided with foods that they enjoy on the days that they attend, so meal times are a pleasurable experience for them. Children confidently help themselves to drinks during the day, which prevents them becoming thirsty or dehydrated.

Children learn about the importance of hand washing routines through guidance from the childminder and pictorial guides in the cloakroom. Each child has their own towel to prevent the risk of cross infection. Children enjoy many opportunities to take part in physical activities on a daily basis. As a result being healthy is extremely well promoted with children developing a very healthy lifestyle from a young age.

The childminder holds a current first aid certificate and the first aid box is fully stocked, so children can be treated immediately in the event of an accident. Any accidents are recorded and shared with 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?	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?	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?	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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