

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY321155
Inspection date	27/08/2009
Inspector	Catherine Hill
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 2006. She lives with her partner and two children, aged five and two years, in Ash, Hampshire. The whole of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family has a dog. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than two may be in the early years age range. She is currently caring for one child in this age group. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder takes and collects children from the local school.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder effectively organises her time and resources to ensure children have good opportunities to play and learn within a welcoming, family environment. Children are happy and settled and play harmoniously together, sensitively supported and supervised by the childminder. Inclusive practice is positively promoted, with all children treated with equal concern, and positive partnerships developed with parents. The childminder's capacity to maintain continuous improvement is good. She is enthusiastic about her role and proactive in attending training to further her knowledge and skills.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop children's assessment records by recording their next steps in learning, which can be shared with parents
- improve detail in documentation by including Ofsted's contact address within the complaints procedure and by ensuring risk assessment records include detail of all the different types of outing with children.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's policies and procedures are effective in ensuring children's learning and development and welfare needs are met. Their welfare is safeguarded as the childminder understands her responsibilities with regard to child protection. She has a written policy to support her practice and maintains relevant literature on file for reference. She has also attended safeguarding training. Children play safely as the childminder has identified and minimised hazards within the home. She maintains records of her risk assessments although these do not include specific detail about all the different types of outings with children. A wide range of documentation is in place, although a little details is missing from some records, for example Ofsted's contact details within the complaints procedure. Positive

relationships have been established with parents who receive both verbal and written daily feedback about their child. They also receive copies of the childminder's policies.

The childminder has evaluated her practice and identified areas for further improvement. She has successfully incorporated the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) into her practice and regularly attends training courses to further extend her own knowledge and skills. For example, since her last inspection she has attended training on the EYFS and writing policies and procedures. She has also addressed recommendations raised at her previous inspection.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have daily opportunities for exercise and for play outside in the fresh air which helps them develop healthy bodies. They confidently sit on the rocker in the garden and understand to move their body to make the rocker go back and forth. They enjoy healthy snacks of banana, raisins, rice cake and apple, and freely access their drink when thirsty. The childminder's policies and procedures help protect children from illness and infection and they develop an understanding of hygiene routines as they wash their hands before they eat. Children play safely as the childminder closely supervises them and teaches them how to use toys safely. They play well together and are learning to share toys and show consideration to others.

The childminder makes regular observations of children's learning and tracks their development within learning journey records, although does not record their next steps in learning. She provides a balance of adult led and child initiated activities, and ensures children are given time to explore toys at their pace. Children's emotional well-being is supported very well with lots of cuddles and a genuine interest taken in what they do. Children have excellent relationships with the childminder and go to her readily for support and reassurance showing that secure trusting relationships have been formed. They are helped to find a voice as the childminder interprets the sounds they make. They have fun exploring dressing up hats and giggle as they discover other children playfully hiding from them. They show a good understanding of how things work as they press buttons to make battery powered cars move.

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?	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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