

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	03/11/2009
Inspector	Claudia Padfield
Type of setting	Childminder

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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.

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Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 2009. She lives with her husband and two children of high school-age. They live in a house in Basingstoke, Hampshire. Children will play on the ground floor and sleep in a travel cot. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for six children under eight years, of which three can be under five years. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory Childcare Register. There are currently two children in the Early Years Register on roll. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local toddler group.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder is developing an understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and recognises the benefit of proactively developing her knowledge and understanding by attending a range of training courses; this promotes all aspects of children's welfare and learning with success.

Children in her care are very much respected as individuals, and she ensures that they feel fully valued and at home in her care. They seek lots of cuddles and reassurance when they play often returning to the childminder for a quick cuddle.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the emergency evacuation procedure
- develop the children's observations to identify the areas of learning and plan for future challenges within the specific area

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children feel safe and secure in the care of this warm and welcoming childminder. She gives high priority to safeguarding the welfare of all the children in her care. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of child protection issues and procedures to follow should she have any concerns. This is supported by a safeguarding children policy which is shared with parents. This all helps to protect children from harm. Children are further protected through the regular risk assessments that minimise potential hazards to children both in and outdoors.

The childminder uses her space well enabling children to happily access the range of toys and equipment making choices about what they do and involving the childminder in their role play, by making cups of tea and serving plates of food.

The childminder acts as a good role model during play and this encourages the children to say please and thank you without prompting.

The childminder has begun to evaluate the service she provides completing the online self evaluation form. She is keen to continually improve the provision for the children that attend. Through greater knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage her observations will truly reflect more specific learning intentions and future challenges for the children in her care.

Effective written policies and procedures are in place and are shared with parents, who enjoy the daily diary that reflects the range of learning the children experience on a daily basis. Children are truly settled and this is due to the care the childminder takes getting to know the individual. She is fully aware of her need to liaise and form partnerships with all who care for the children she minds.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are happy, settled and secure in the care of the childminder. They are made to feel welcome in her family where they are respected as individuals and develop a strong sense of belonging. When children spot photographs of the childminder's older children they comment with affection, looking forward to when they arrive home after school. Children enjoy playing together and are learning to share and take turns from the childminder role modelling and talking them through expectations.

The childminder is developing her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation stage. In the short time she has worked the childminder has shared her daily observations with the children's parents and evaluates the success of her activities within the self evaluation. The childminder promotes children's good health and well-being, and takes the necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, children eagerly go and wash hands before having lunch using the pump soap and enjoying the opportunity to be independent. The children recognise their own beaker and have drinks as they play. Meals are a sociable occasion where the children enjoy feeding themselves with help and support when they need it. This develops good levels of self esteem and self confidence.

The children learn how to stay safe during play and daily routines as the childminder carefully explains the reasons why activities are not safe such as running indoors and climbing on chairs. She is attentive to their personal care needs wiping their noses and changing nappies as required. However her emergency evacuation procedure needs to be developed and visually available.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	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