

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	18/03/2010
Inspector	Tracy Bartholomew
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 1997. She is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband and two children aged 13 and 19 years, in the outskirts of Abingdon. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder attends toddler groups, goes for walks, visits to the park and school pick-ups. The childminder is registered for six children at any one time and of these three may be within the early years age range. She is currently minding 10 children and of these five are within the early years age range, all children attend on a part and time basis. The family have a dog.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

The quality of the practice is outstanding. All children thrive with this childminder and achieve consistently well across all areas of their learning and development. This is due to the childminder's enthusiasm and commitment to provide an exceptionally stimulating and fun learning environment. The childminder is highly skilled at meeting the individual needs of all the children and she fully engages with them to develop an inclusive learning, which as a result enables all children to reach their full potential. The childminder has high standards and a clear vision for the future which is very well captured within her self-evaluation. Due to this all children are making good to outstanding progress in their learning and development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- consider extending the children's profiles to further include details of how children's interests are captured and supported

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

This experienced and knowledgeable childminder has exceptional skills to enable her to promote children's welfare, learning and development in all areas. She fully understands and recognises children's learning abilities very well, which enables her to facilitate their learning through play, by exploring and adaptation of activities. The childminder has exceptional knowledge of the children in her care and she uses this knowledge to meet the children's individual needs, interests and developmental stages exceptionally well. It is through the commitment that the

childminder has to keep her knowledge up to date, which ensures that the practice is outstanding throughout. She is clearly dedicated and committed to supporting and progressing children's development overall, she ensures that the children are safe, healthy and inspired throughout their day. The childminder has high standard policies and procedures, these are very well maintained to ensure the children's welfare and as a result children are extremely well safeguarded.

The childminder evaluates her practice accurately and precisely. She is forward thinking and dedicated to further extend her practice in all areas, to enable her to exceed the requirements and experiences for all children. She is skilful in the adaptation of her practice and uses rigorous monitoring, to ensure that continual reflection is used to element any minor improvement. Documentation is to a high standard and all paperwork is methodically in place, this includes policies and procedures, risk assessments, contract and planning.

The childminder has highly positive relationships with all parents and carers. She has good to exemplary partnerships with parents and people involved with the children, which enables all to be heavily involved in decision making and daily routines. Parents receive comprehensive detail of their children's day and progress, as the childminder provides highly inclusive systems of communication, including daily records, telephone call, photographs and creative masterpieces of the children's work.

The childminder helps children understand diversity and learn to celebrate people's differences. The children play with puppets and self adhesive picture cards on the mirror which reflecting different cultures, age and race. In addition she is skilful in methods of communication which she uses with children with speech and hearing problems. As a result, the children are effectively and activity learning and developing their awareness of equality and diversity.

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

All children, including babies, show an extremely strong sense of security and belonging with the setting. They are consistently engaged and clearly enjoy being in the company of this childminder. In addition they are confident, settle and display extremely high levels of confidence and self-esteem. The childminder provides the children with vast array of appealing activities and experiences, both inside and outside her home, which results in the children's development being consistently challenged. The children know where resources are kept and confidently access for favourites when ready for a change. Some enjoy making music, playing together sociably while listening to the sounds and feeling the vibrations. The children share toys fairly, taking turns with the home made bottle shakers and eagerly waiting to play on the music turn table.

The childminder is skilful at engaging and empathising with all children. She maintains their interest throughout the day, for example, some children choose to play with the animals and insects and the childminder sits on the floor while they engage in conversations and discussion about what colour the animals are, where

they live, how many there are and varying patterns they have on their bodies, the childminder is dexterous at using positional language and developing knowledge of the natural world within relevant activities.

All play is relaxed and is specifically tailored to meet the children's individual learning requirements, all activities stem from children profiles and have clear challenges for each child. She records observations and evaluates the activities to plan for their next steps, including appropriate extension exercises to reinforce what children know. Profiles are individualised and unique and an area to further maximise these records would be to further include details of how children's interests are captured and supported.

Children play in an exceptionally clean, secure and comfortable environment. They show an excellent understanding of how to safeguard themselves through use of flash cards that the childminder uses and child friendly risk assessment. This develops the children's awareness and enables them to have an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe. In addition the children are consistently building on their exceptional understanding of the importance of good personal hygiene, through use of high standard procedures and first class learning experiences.

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?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	1

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

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	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	1
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	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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