

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	02/12/2010
Inspector	Dinah Round
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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the childminding

The childminder registered to care for children in 1997. She lives with her husband and their three children aged nine, 15, and 19 years. They live in a house in the residential area of Ensbury Park, in Bournemouth, Dorset. Childminding is carried out on both levels of the premises, with sleep provision and toilet facilities accessible on both levels. Children have access to an enclosed rear garden for outdoor play. The family have a pet dog and cockatiel. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time of whom three may be on the Early Years Register. She is currently minding five children of whom two are in the early years age group. She also offers care for older children aged over five years to nine years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are welcomed into a relaxed and caring environment where they are happy and settled. The childminder has a clear understanding of children's individual needs through working closely with parents to help provide continuity of care. Children are provided with a satisfactory range of appropriate play and learning experiences which include opportunities to take part in regular outings. Children's welfare is suitably promoted; although the childminder does not meet all the welfare requirements. Systems to evaluate the quality of the provision are not effectively developed to fully reflect on ways to improve children's care and learning

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- maintain a record of the risk assessment clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 09/12/2010

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

- update knowledge and understanding of safeguarding children issues and the procedures to follow to protect children
- increase knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework, and develop further the systems to assess and monitor each child's development

and learning, in order to help plan for and meet, their development and learning needs

- develop effective systems for self-evaluation so that all areas for improvement are identified and acted upon to continually improve outcomes for children

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is sufficiently organised with many aspects of documentation maintained to help support children's health and welfare. Safety equipment is generally in place to ensure that children can move around freely in their play. However, a risk assessment has not been completed to ensure all risks to children are identified and minimised, which is a requirement. The childminder has a sound understanding of the possible signs and symptoms of child abuse which contributes towards safeguarding children. However, she is less clear of the procedures to follow if she had a concern about a child in her care.

The childminder makes sure that all children feel valued and are included in the play activities. For example, each child is provided with their own individual paint pots enabling them to freely access the paints and work at their own pace. Children are provided with a reasonable selection of clean, well maintained toys and resources. Regular outings around the community and use of the garden at set times provide children with opportunities for fresh air and exercise. The childminder recognises the importance of continuous development of her childminding provision; however, effective systems to identify and highlight all areas for improvement for children are not yet fully established.

The childminder develops positive relationships with parents and carers which helps her to support children's individual needs. Informal discussion, alongside use of the daily diaries means that information about a child's care and development is regularly exchanged. For example, following requests from parents the childminder has been supporting children to learn how to use scissors properly. Parents are happy with the childminder's flexible approach, and her ability to maintain consistency for children between their time at home and at the childminding setting. The childminder links with other early years settings that children attend to help promote continuity of care.

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

Children are happy and settled in the welcoming and friendly environment provided by the childminder. She is attentive to the children's individual needs, and children are confident to approach the childminder for help as they can be assured of a warm and caring response. Children are provided with a reasonable range of play activities and opportunities which are generally age appropriate and keep them sufficiently occupied and interested. The childminder has started to make

some simple notes of children's development and achievements. However, she is still developing her understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework which means the full opportunities to move children on to the next step in their learning are not always explored.

Children are helped to learn to share and take turns, and the childminder ensures that there are sufficient resources available so each child can join in the play opportunities. They receive regular praise and encouragement which helps build their confidence and self-esteem. Children's communication and language is suitably supported as the childminder actively promotes conversation through their play activities and takes children to the weekly 'story time' sessions at the library. Children have access to a variety of age appropriate puzzles which introduces them to shape and simple problem-solving activities. Children are provided with a range of creative play activities. They have fun as they paint and sprinkle glitter to create their festive pictures and are helped to make snowflakes with wool, although this is too difficult for the younger children.

Children's health and safety is suitably supported. They learn about keeping themselves safe in their play through the gentle reminders given by the childminder and taking part in the emergency evacuation procedures. Children are generally helped to develop an understanding of good health and hygiene routines. The childminder links closely with parents to support children in following a healthy and nutritious diet, such as making sure they eat all their sandwiches and fruit before they have any treats.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 09/12/2010

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 09/12/2010