

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	121135
Inspection date	21/09/2011
Inspector	Kerry Iden
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 was registered in 1998. She lives with her husband, an elderly parent and one adult son. They live in a house, in a rural area in Ellen's Green, Rudgwick, Horsham in West Sussex. Children have access to the ground floor of the childminder's home with a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family has a cat, a dog and keep chickens in the garden.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of six children under eight years, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age group. There are currently six children on roll, one of whom is in the early years age group. All children attend on a part-time basis.

The childminder drives children to local schools and nearby facilities, such as parks and places of interest. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children and babies feel safe, secure and settled. The childminder has a sound awareness of children's individual care needs, although systems to effectively plan for their learning are not yet fully established. The childminder is keen to work with parents and gain required information from them. Although systems to self-evaluate her practice is in the early stages, the childminder has an understanding of the areas which needs further development. This demonstrates that she does have the ability to make continuous improvement.

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, the date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Documentation) 07/10/2011

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

- develop observation and assessments to identify learning priorities to plan relevant and motivating learning experiences for each child linked to the

- areas of learning
- develop systems to enable parents, and others involved in their care, to review their children's progress regularly and contribute to their child's learning and development record.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safe and secure within the setting. The childminder has a sound understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard children. She shares this information verbally with parents. The childminder has organised systems for confidential records for the administration of any medication and the recording of accidents. She maintains a current paediatric first aid certificate to ensure children's well-being in the event of an accident. The childminder supervises children at all times and demonstrates a good understanding of different risks to different children. However, she has not completed a record of the risk assessment of her home which is a breach of requirements.

The childminder is evaluating some aspects of her provision and has identified areas in which she wants to make improvements. She liaises with parents and on occasions gains their thoughts through feedback and completed questionnaires. She is beginning to address some areas for development showing she has the capacity to drive improvement within her setting. Children use the main play room at the rear of the property or other areas of the house for quiet times, to share music or stories. Resources sufficiently promote children's learning. The childminder considers adapting the resources for some children, to meet individual needs. She uses their interests to challenge them in areas they would not choose to participate in. For example, adding vehicles to paint to encourage children to make marks and use creative resources.

The childminder is gaining a sound understanding of children's individual needs through initial and ongoing discussion with parents. She adequately promotes equality and diversity and tackles unfair discrimination appropriately. The childminder adapts activities for those with special education needs and/or disabilities enabling all individuals to achieve. The childminder supports the parents and families of all children and has positive relationships with the parents. There is a regular exchange of information about children's care needs and some information about children's time in the setting. However, strategies to help parents and others to support children's learning have not yet been fully explored.

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

Overall, children and babies make sound progress in their learning, although this is stronger in some areas. The childminder has a secure understanding of children's development and how she can challenge children further. However, she has not made systematic observational assessments across all areas of learning. Therefore,

the next steps in children's development is not routinely identified to inform planning. Babies are settled and contented and are happy to participate in play. Because they feel safe and emotionally secure, they are able to explore their environment and develop further skills. They arrive happy and are pleased to see the childminder who offers warm interaction and reassurance. They show they feel secure as they snuggle into the childminder and are relaxed and enjoy their play. Babies' health and dietary requirements are suitably met as the childminder discusses their needs with the parents. Routines are respected and babies are able to feel settled and unrushed as they enjoy a cuddle while having milk feeds. Older children are encouraged to help lay the table for meals and all are reminded to follow hygienic practices.

Activities and position of play are changed to offer babies continued interest in their environment. They enjoy stretching for items on the play gym and quickly realise they can make sounds from the objects above them. As they sit on the childminder's lap, they show an interest in their surroundings and become focussed for a while. Through interaction and games, the childminder maintains good eye contact with the baby. She encourages early communication skills as she leaves pauses in her discussion allowing the baby to respond with coos and babbles. The childminder incorporates children's favourite resources as she encourages children to investigate new 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?	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	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

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	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:

- implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) 07/10/2011
- implement a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints (Procedures for dealing with complaints) 07/10/2011

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 compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) 28/09/2011
- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Procedures for dealing with complaints) 07/10/2011