

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	255406
Inspection date	30/03/2009
Inspector	Shirley Amanda Wilkes
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 report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

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 1999. She lives in Streetly with her husband and two sons, aged 17 years and 10 years. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The premises are accessible to all adults and children.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently four children in the early years age group on roll.

The childminder offers a collection and delivery service to local schools and nurseries. She is a member of the National Childminding Association and attends the local childminders' support group.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. There is a strong focus on partnership with parents and inclusion to ensure each child is valued and respected as an individual and that their individual needs are successfully met. Children explore their environment in safety as all potential hazards indoors and outdoors have been minimised by the childminder, to prevent accidents occurring. However, risk assessments on outings out of the home have not been completed. Monitoring and evaluation of the provision is in its infancy and, as yet, does not fully reflect the improvements identified by the childminder.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop further observational assessments in order to plan for children's individual needs and help them make progress towards the early learning goals
- develop further the quality and improvement processes to monitor and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the provision.

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

- ensure the risk assessment includes details of outings that need to be checked on a regular basis, maintain a record of these particular aspects and when and by whom they have been checked (Suitable premises, environment & equipment).

13/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her daily routines well in order to provide appropriate activities for children of different ages and stages of development. Children have opportunities to eat, sleep or rest in accordance with their familiar daily patterns. They are offered a range of play opportunities, both indoors and outdoors. The childminder implements a good set of policies and procedures which are clearly explained to all parents when registering their children.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as the childminder has good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. There are effective systems in place to ensure children are well cared for in an emergency for instance, a buddy system has been established; children have met the childminders and parents have been informed. The childminder uses regular discussions with parents to exchange information that supports her in meeting children's individual needs. For example, she discusses the changing daily routines and feeding habits of young babies. She also uses these opportunities to discuss the children's achievements.

The childminder has started to develop links with other settings attended by the children she cares for in order to further coordinate planning for their progression. She has started to evaluate her provision and has the capacity to make improvements; she has addressed the recommendation from her previous inspection and is currently in the process of identifying specific areas for improvements.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enjoy their time with the childminder as close and caring relationships have been established. Consequently, children's behaviour is good as there is little opportunity for children to become distracted and disinterested. The childminder provides varied experiences which are well balanced to meet children's individual needs. She interacts positively with the children as they play, helping them increase vocabulary; they enjoy sharing books lifting the flaps and talking about the pictures, counting the animals and searching for the mouse in the picture. Children behave well. They learn to take turns and know to put back books when they have finished looking at them. Children receive praise and encouragement for their effort and achievements, which helps boost their confidence and self-esteem. Children confidently make choices about their play, such as building towers with cups, during which the childminder encourages colour and number recognition. Children's social skills are also enhanced through outings within the local environment and visits to toddler groups.

Children have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe as they are given clear explanations by the childminder. For example, they are reminded not to climb up on furniture and to be gentle when playing with younger children. Children are familiar with the emergency evacuation procedures, which they practise regularly to ensure they are able to keep themselves safe. During routine outings, the childminder often talks to children about road safety, allowing them to

develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. The children's safety is further promoted because the childminder regularly practises fire drills with them. The premises are clean and well maintained.

The childminder actively promotes good hygiene practices to minimise the risk of cross-infection, for example, children use liquid soap and paper towels. Good nappy changing procedures are in place; the changing mat is cleaned with anti-bacterial wipes between nappy changes. They are well cared for in the event of having an accident as the childminder is qualified in first aid and has all systems in place to respond appropriately.

The childminder knows the children well and is able to identify progress they have made in some areas of learning. She provides a range of activities that support progress and development. However, procedures for assessing children's development in each area of learning are not sufficiently well developed to identify the next steps in their learning and development.

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?	3
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?	3
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

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

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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Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.