

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY286511
Inspection date	09/02/2009
Inspector	Emma Bright
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 2004. She lives with her husband and three children aged nine, 12 and 15 in Cambridge. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding with a bedroom upstairs for sleeping and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding two children in this age group. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends a variety of local groups. The family has no pets. The childminder supports children with English as an additional language and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder ensures children are settled and content in her care; she recognises each child's individual needs which help them to feel secure. The childminder provides a sufficient range of activities to help them make satisfactory progress in their learning and development. Most of the required documentation to promote children's welfare is in place. The childminder is aware of the strengths and areas for improvement of her provision.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop planning, using information gained from observations to plan activities which build on children's interests
- develop children's assessment records; ensure that parents have opportunities to contribute so that records can be used to build on what children can do and identify the next steps in their learning
- develop the self evaluation process to show how outcomes for children can be improved.

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

- develop risk assessment systems, ensuring that the record states when it was carried out, by whom, the date of review and any action to be taken (Suitable premises, environment and equipment: also applies to

09/04/2009

the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register)

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminding provision is suitably organised and most documentation is in place to promote the welfare of children. The childminder undertakes daily checks of the premises to ensure children's safety. However, a formal risk assessment is not in place to identify and ensure action is taken in order to protect children from hazards both inside, outside or whilst on outings. The childminder has a good understanding of her role in safeguarding children and is clear about the appropriate procedures to put into practice when necessary. She has attended advanced training in child protection and this knowledge is underpinned by a clear policy which is shared with parents and this means children are kept safe from harm.

The childminder has sound relationships with parents; she gathers information from them so that she has an awareness of children's individual interests and needs and can provide a consistency of care. The childminder gives verbal feedback each day so that parents are informed of their child's progress. The childminder is beginning to identify some areas of strength and weakness which require development. However the system for monitoring and evaluating the provision is not fully effective as positive outcomes for children are not clearly identified.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder understands children's individual abilities and interests; children enjoy their activities with the childminder and they take part in suitable play opportunities that help them to learn and develop. The childminder has a sound understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and is aware of children's individual developmental needs. She has just begun to make observations of children in their play and record them in their assessment records. However, the childminder does not use the information gained from observations to plan activities which build on children's interests. Parents do not contribute to their child's records to help build on what children know and identify the next steps in their learning.

The childminder provides a relaxed environment where each child is valued and they have opportunities to hear and use their home language at the setting. The children are clearly relaxed and comfortable in her nurturing care. For example, children enjoy being close to the childminder as they look at books together or they snuggle up as they feed from their bottles. Children chat readily with the childminder who responds to their talk; she repeats and models key words to promote their language development. They enjoy opportunities to develop early writing skills, for example children readily make marks to represent their ideas as they experiment with different coloured crayons. The childminder develops

children's learning by introducing mathematical concepts such as counting and colour recognition in their play and when out on walks. Children learn problem solving skills as they attempt to place jigsaw pieces into the correct place and begin to order objects according to size. These simple activities lay the foundations to support the children's future economic well-being. Suitable indoor and outdoor provision is available for children to develop their physical skills and coordination.

Children enjoy opportunities for plenty of fresh air and exercise as they walk regularly to local amenities. The childminder helps children to gain an awareness of how to keep safe, both in the home and on outings. The childminder gathers clear information from parents about children's dietary requirements and this ensures children can eat safely. The childminder is fully aware of her responsibilities to safeguard children. She ensures she can respond appropriately if a child becomes ill or has an accident and she has completed a relevant first aid course.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
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?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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:

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).

09/04/2009

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).

09/04/2009

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 made to Ofsted 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.