

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY301123
Inspection date	11/02/2009
Inspector	Doreen Forsyth
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 has been registered since 2004. She lives with her husband and their two young children in Andover, Hampshire. The home is near the town centre and is within easy reach of local shops, schools, pre-schools and other amenities. All of the home may be used for childminding. There is an enclosed rear garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register, to care for a maximum four children at any one time; of these only two may be in the early years age range. Currently the childminder cares for four children, one on a full-time basis, the other three on a part-time basis.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association; the family have a pet dog.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children enjoy themselves at the setting and are making good progress in their learning. The learning opportunities provided meet the needs of all children that are cared for and keep them actively engaged. Children's welfare is promoted appropriately but some of the specific requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) are not fully met. The childminder is beginning to use self-assessment to reflect on her practice and to target specific areas for improvement. A welcoming and inclusive service is provided.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- share the assessment process and records with parents and other providers when appropriate, to ensure continuity and to support children's learning at home.

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

- ensure the daily record of children's attendance is accurately maintained (Documentation) 28/02/2009
- keep 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). 28/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder protects children. She and her husband have been suitably vetted, she ensures that all adults whom have access to the children are suitable to do so. The childminder has attended appropriate training to update her skills and knowledge in early years care and education. She has improved the children's safety since the last inspection by obtaining appropriate qualifications in first aid. The children play in a safe and secure environment, but the childminder does not record the risk assessments she carries out in order to ensure the safety of the children while in her home. The childminder is very confident in the procedures she would follow if she had any child protection concerns.

Most of the records, policies and procedures that are necessary to promote children's health and well-being are well kept and shared with parents, but the record of children's attendance is not accurately maintained. The childminder has begun to explore the use of self-evaluation and assessment to review the provision she offers and identify areas for further improvement in her service, therefore enhancing the potential outcomes for children.

Inclusive practice is promoted. The childminder welcomes and values all children, regardless of their backgrounds. She provides parents with good information about her setting and uses daily diaries to keep them informed, however, she does not include parents in the assessment processes she uses and has not made links with the other providers that the children use, such as the nearby pre-school and school.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Well planned, purposeful play is provided by the childminder, which is helping children to learn and develop appropriately. Children have many planned opportunities to take part in different activities such as painting, cooking and outside play. Their physical development is promoted when they go for walks, use large play resources or attend tumble club. They enjoy looking at books and listening to stories and so children's language development is fostered well. The childminder has created a safe and stimulating play environment, which helps to promote learning across all areas. She observes and records the children's progress and takes lots of photos of them at play, which are shared with parents. The childminder uses the observations she makes to informally plan for next steps in the children's learning journeys and to ensure children progress in the six areas of learning. She assesses where children are in their learning when they join her provision, but does not include parents' views in these assessments. She does not link and share assessment procedures and information with the other providers that the children use.

Children mainly play in the safe, welcoming play room; there are age appropriate resources well stored in the playroom and throughout the home. The toys are organised to allow children to easily access them and choose what they wish to do, which helps to develop their independence. Children are provided with a range of

healthy and nutritious meal and snacks and they can always access their own drinks. The childminder follows appropriate hygiene routines and helps the children to learn the importance of good hygiene, but they are not always reminded to wash their hands before eating.

The childminder uses a range of suitable strategies, which are shared with parents, to promote children's good behaviour. She praises them and offers children encouragement, she helps them to learn to consider the needs of others. Children are encouraged to tidy away toys after they use them to avoid accidents and stop them getting broken. Children have many opportunities to begin to learn about the wider world and their own environment. They visit the library, walk to the shops and into town; they sometimes meet with other parents and young children giving the children the opportunity to begin to interact with other adults and children.

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?	2
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?	2
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?	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 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.