

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY303904
Inspection date	13/01/2009
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 2005. She lives with her husband, two adult children and two children aged 15 and four years in Telford. There are shops and a park within easy walking distance. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed outside play area. The premises are accessible to all adults and children.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both parts of the voluntary and compulsory part of the Childcare Register. The childminder is currently minding three children on a part-time basis, two of whom are on the Early Years Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides a safe, secure and inclusive environment where she promotes children's welfare and learning. She knows the children in her care well and utilises her knowledge of their individuality well to encourage their self-confidence and self-esteem. The childminder self-evaluates her practice and identifies areas for development to ensure constant improvement is made for the benefit of the children. Parents are well informed through her written policies, regular verbal exchange of information and records of children's individual progress.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop further links with all other settings providing for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The children are cared for in a safe, secure environment. 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. All required documentation is in place. The childminder has developed policies and procedures that work in practice to promote children's health, safety and ability to make a positive contribution. She attends regular training to further develop her childcare practices. The childminder successfully carries out recommendations made at previous inspections to promote the welfare of the children. For example, she has developed her knowledge and understanding of equality and diversity and has provided a selection of toys and equipment that reflect this. The childminder has started to develop procedures for monitoring and evaluating the setting to identify any areas for improvement. The childminder is very well organised,

providing a welcoming, colourful and inspiring environment, where children have freedom of movement between the rooms and many stimulating resources to choose from. Children's self-esteem and confidence are, therefore, promoted well.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are relaxed and content in the clean and welcoming family home. Ample space is available for them to fully explore the play materials in comfort. Children's safety is very well promoted. Detailed risk assessments are carried out on all areas of the home and on outings to identify and eliminate potential hazards. Children learn how to keep themselves safe when out and know why there are certain rules to abide by. The childminder is clear on child protection issues and her safeguarding responsibilities to protect the children in her care. Children's exposure to illness and cross-infection is minimised through sharing the formal sickness policy and the implementing of hygienic routines in the provision. Children have healthy snacks and are able to access drinks freely. They have opportunities to enjoy the fresh air and develop their physical skills as they play in the garden, use sit and ride toys and play on the slide. Visits to the park and outings to child-orientated venues allows for more physical play. Children have access to a good balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities that cover all of the six areas of learning. Children confidently choose the toys they wish to play with and the childminder gets down to the children's level to support them during their play. This helps them make good progress in their communication, language, literacy and numeracy, for example, when playing with the play dough, talking about size and shape, and when counting the remaining pieces of puzzle left to fit in.

Children have regular access to a wide selection of books, resources and various posters that show the wider world. Children receive lots of encouragement and praise to help them to develop confidence and self-esteem, for example, when completing new jigsaws. The childminder has put together a scrapbook for children that includes photographs and their artwork. Additionally, the childminder carries out regular observations and they clearly identify what children can do and this is used to inform planning for the next steps in children's learning. As a result, they are making good progress in their learning and development. Partnerships with other providers have yet to be established to ensure progression and continuity of care and education.

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?	2
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?	2
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.