

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY311686
Inspection date	10/02/2009
Inspector	Kerry Iden
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 2005. He lives with his wife, who is also a childminder registered in her own right, and two children. They live in a house in Fareham within walking distance of schools, shops and recreation areas. The whole of the ground floor of the house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder and his co-childminder are currently minding 14 children under the age of eight, seven of whom are in the early years age group, most children attend on a part-time basis.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children are settled, happy and secure in the setting, the childminder follows regular routines and children's individual needs are met. The childminder ensures some inclusion within the setting as he adapts activities to allow each child to achieve. The childminder shows commitment to his chosen work, he has completed additional training, identified future training and with his co-childminder have plans for future development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the current system for observations and assessment to ensure the observations are linked with the expectations of the early learning goals
- develop the current system of planning to ensure it is based on children's individual needs
- ensure a clear system is in place for parents to give their consent for children to receive treatment in an emergency.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are protected by the childminder's knowledge of signs and symptoms to look out for that may alert him that a child may be at risk. The childminder would seek advice from his co-childminder who is more experienced in this area. The childminder ensures continued safety of the children as there is a strict collection policy.

Improvements have been made to the setting since the last inspection and the childminder has attended many training courses to develop his knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder meets with

his co-childminder to discuss the week as they complete their weekly diary of observations and events although the childminder has not yet self-evaluated all aspects of the provision.

Although the main responsibility of working in partnership with the parents lies with his co-childminder, the childminder has a good understanding of the need to work closely with all parents and is confident to approach parents where necessary. The childminder tends to take and collect children from pre-school establishing good links with the pre-school.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The interaction between the childminder and young children is warm and affectionate, children come in from the kitchen and excitedly tell the childminder how they have iced biscuits and made one for him. Very young children feel comfortable with the childminder as they take their first few steps towards him with outstretched arms and a huge grin on their face. Children interact and cooperate well with each other and know to share the equipment. There is a family feel to the setting, for example, as young children are taken upstairs for a sleep they say goodnight to the other children as they wave them off to bed. Conversation is encouraged by the childminder as he asks the children open-ended questions about their play. Children have some opportunities to develop their knowledge of shape, colour and size through everyday activities such as building towers with wooden blocks, identifying the coloured pencils they use when drawing and the chairs they sit on for lunch. Children are developing their sense of time through routines of the day, they know to tidy up before lunchtime and other little routine procedures such as hands being washed before lunch and getting ready to go to pre-school.

The childminder and the co-childminder work together with all children on roll, they both know the children well and therefore do not have key children but work together on the planning and observation arrangements. They have devised very simple planning that they use for all the children, this is based around colours for each week and topical related activities. Planning is not in place from the observations made of the children and therefore is not individual. The childminder has devised tracking records for each individual child, as well as a weekly observation diary. The tracking records demonstrate the age-appropriate sections of the Early Years Foundation Stage, however there are limited observations to demonstrate how children are making progress towards the expectations of the early learning goals.

Clear procedures are in place for children's safety and well-being whilst in the setting, such as security arrangements and risk assessments. A dedicated playroom is organised with some storage units to allow children to independently access play equipment. Additional areas of the house are used for older children during school holidays. With a downstairs cloakroom, children are able to remain on the ground floor of the property with the exception of young children sleeping in a suitable room on the first floor. Children learn about being healthy and reducing the risk of cross-infection as the childminder reminds young children to

cover their mouth when coughing and sneezing. The childminder manages behaviour and encourages sharing, he quietly uses distraction, which is suitable for the age of children attending. The childminder continually provides children with equal attention and knows their level of understanding.

The childminder has organised documentation for parents' information and supplies parents with a set of the policies for the setting. Many permissions from parents are in place although parents have not been asked to give their consent for emergency medical treatment. All other required documentation such as attendance registers and children's information records are in place and contain all necessary information.

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?	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?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
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:	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.