

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY315222
Inspection date	20/11/2008
Inspector	Lilyanne Taylor
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 registered in 2006. She is registered to work from a mid-terrace house in a residential area of Cowes on the Isle of Wight, which is the home of another registered childminder. All areas of the home are suitable for minding and there is a fully enclosed outdoor play area. The house is within walking distance to local shops, schools and parks. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children when working alone and 11 children when working with another childminder. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. In addition, the childminder is also a member of the Isle of Wight Children Come First Childminding network. Currently the childminder has 16 children on roll; of these 14 are in the early years age group, most attend part time. The childminder operates every weekday; operational hours are in agreement with parents.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder works alongside another childminder and parents to ensure she has a sound knowledge and understanding of all children in attendance and that their individual welfare and learning needs are appropriately supported and met. The childminder has effective systems in place for monitoring and evaluating her practice to ensure continual improvement and takes appropriate action to ensure areas she identifies for improvement are addressed. For example, she has recently introduced a recording system to show how individual children are making progress through the stepping stones of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) through the many activities they engage in.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure suitable arrangements are put in place for providing care for children when there is sickness within the household so they are fully protected from the spread of illness
- put in place procedures for maintaining a regular two-way flow of information between other providers of the EYFS to ensure the progress of all children's education is continuous
- ensure parents are able to be actively involved in their children's education by increasing the information made available to them about the EYFS so they gain an understanding of the learning their children can gain and the progress they can make through activities they engage in

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

- complete an appropriate paediatric first aid course (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare

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Register)

The leadership and management of the early years provision

All documentation, including a range of detailed written policies effectively promote children's health, safety and welfare, and ensure their individual needs are met. The childminder has a sound understanding of her role and responsibility for safeguarding children and knows what action to take should she have concerns about a child's welfare. Detailed written risk assessments which cover outings as well as both indoor and outdoor environments, further promote children's safety.

The childminder has improved her provision through implementing the recommendations given at her last inspection. For example, all toys are now maintained in a good play worthy condition and systems for monitoring children while they sleep ensure they are kept safe.

Although the childminder has some knowledge of first aid this is not up to date; the childminder does not hold a current first aid certificate. Most of the time children are protected from illness and infection through the procedures the childminder has in place.

The childminder has established good working relationships with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met; daily diaries exchanged include information about some of the activities their children have engaged in and the care they have been provided with. Although parents are encouraged to discuss with the childminder any achievements their child has made or interests they may have expressed, they are not able to be fully involved in their children's learning because they receive little information about the EYFS.

The childminder is aware that some children in her care attend other provider of the EYFS. However, she has not yet developed a system to share or exchange information with them to ensure all children's education is continuously progressed.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has a growing knowledge of the EYFS and uses her skills and experience suitably to meet children's individual needs. She has a clear recognition of each child as an individual and appropriately supports children to make progress in their learning. A system to show how the observations made of children while they play are used to plan for their next steps of learning is developing well.

Children make steady progress because the childminder extends their experiences through visits and outings. For example, while walking to the local pre-school children identify colours of cars they see and discuss the types of houses they pass. At the park children have the opportunity to use large equipment such as a slide, and roundabout, they collect leaves which they later use to make collages

and they play hide and seek around the trees.

The childminder speaks with children continually and promotes conversation through effective questioning. Books are used well to link words with pictures and to provide children with positive images of the wider world. Children are confident in the childminder's care because they have developed secure relationships with her. This ensures that they are happy and confident to play and explore the environment.

A safe and healthy lifestyle is very effectively promoted through clear routines and an emphasis on fresh air, exercise and eating well. Children recognise and respond to their own need for food and drink and they learn about staying safe as they practise fire drills routinely. Through the consistently applied rules of the setting children are taught to show care and concern for others and the importance of sharing and taking turns.

Although a sick child policy is effectively implemented, children are not fully protected from the spread of illness because the childminder still cares for them at these premises when members of the household are ill. In addition, because she does not have up to date training of how to deal with minor injuries of children their well-being is compromised .

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?	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:

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

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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.