

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY361832
Inspection date	10/12/2008
Inspector	Janet Marie Thouless
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 2007. She lives with her husband and four year old son in Kenley, Surrey. The property is accessible to local parks, schools and transport services. The whole of the childminder's house, apart from the master bedroom, is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently caring for three children on a full and part-time basis. Of these, two are in the Early Years age group.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends carer and toddler groups and takes children to the library and places of interest.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder promotes all aspects of children's welfare and learning and development effectively. She provides a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment, where all children's individual needs are met. They make good progress in their learning and are supported extremely well in their play. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. She is keen to develop her knowledge and skills through ongoing training and has attended a wealth of training opportunities to ensure that her knowledge remains up to date and everyday practice continually improves.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- update current policies and procedures to reflect the welfare requirements
- continue to develop the use of observation and assessment to record children's learning and development.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Effective written policies and procedures are in place to ensure children are safeguarded. However, a number of policies and procedures refer to the National Standards and require updating to the Welfare Requirements. Formal risk assessments are in place to ensure children's safety. Through the use of self-evaluation the childminder is able to reflect on her own practice to devise ways to improve outcomes for children. The childminder manages children's information well, children's individual folders are stored appropriately to ensure confidentiality. Accident, incident and medication records are well maintained and a clear record is maintained of children's daily attendance.

The childminder demonstrate good knowledge of child protection and procedures to be followed should she have any concerns. All adult household members are appropriately vetted. Clear procedures are in place to ensure children are only released to authorised parents or guardians to ensure their safety and well-being.

There are good partnerships in place with parents. Effective procedures are in place to ensure parents are fully informed of their children's welfare. The childminder discusses children's development with parents on a regular basis and systems are in place to share the assessment procedures and observations with them. This enables parents to share knowledge of their children's development with the childminder.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder provides a welcoming and relaxed home environment for children. As a result, children are beginning to form healthy emotional attachments through warm trusting relationships with the childminder and enjoy the time they spend in her care. The childminder knows the children well and is aware of their likes, dislikes and personal preferences. The childminder offers guidance to the children so she can support them in their play and learning. For example, the childminder supports and extends children's learning by encouraging them to identify shapes and colours whilst playing with the dough.

A good range of resources are on offer that allow young children to explore and investigate. They make choices in their play and enjoy playing with role play resources, cutting out play foods and cooking them in the oven for lunch. They enjoy making a range of craft activities for Christmas and practise their fine motor skills when using scissors and spatulas when cutting and sticking and proudly show all their achievements. The childminder offers lots of cuddles, smiles and praise, which children positively respond to. This helps children enjoy their learning and gives them the confidence to try different things. The childminder plans the daily routine extremely well, offering children a good balance of both child-initiated play and adult-led activities, encouraging children to be busy, active learners. She is currently developing children's assessments to further develop and identify individual children's learning needs and next steps in their learning.

There is good provision in place to safeguard children. Children's health and well-being is promoted and steps are taken to protect children against infection and prevent the spread of illness. For example, daily routines include regular hand washing with liquid soap and wet wipes and the brushing of teeth after each meal. Children receive healthy snacks of fruit and vegetables and drinking water is available at all times. Good provision is available for children to play outside and enjoy active, physical play and fresh air. Children benefit from playing outside in the garden and enjoy local walks to the park and regular visits to places of interest, such as drop in groups.

Children develop good social skills as the childminder encourages positive behaviour and promotes strong relationships with one another. For example, they

are encouraged to share and take turns and happily help each other tidy away toys and resources. Children are well behaved because the childminder provides a good role model. Her positive and caring approach and calm nature, means that children are quick to cooperate and understand what is expected. Children play and learn happily. The childminder clearly enjoys her role and this is reflected in the quality of her provision.

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 made to Ofsted since registration.

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.