

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY368246
Inspection date	04/11/2008
Inspector	Nighat Ghani
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 partner in Hyde. The Conservatory, Kitchen and the lounge 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, three of whom may be in the Early Years Foundation Stage age range. The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently six children on roll.

The childminder attends a local carer and toddler group on a regular basis. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder effectively promotes children's welfare and learning in a safe and inclusive environment. Systems are in place for planning, observation and assessment which are at early stages of development. Children develop positive relationships with the childminder and they enjoy a good range of activities which reflect children's stages of development and interest. There is a good working relationships with the parents and they are well informed about their children's daily routines, care and learning. However, they are not included in their children's learning and there are some gaps in the welfare requirements. The childminder is beginning to self-evaluate her provision to identify the key strengths and areas for development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop systems in place for planning, observations and assessments and involve parents' in their children's learning
- obtain parents' premission to seek emergency treatment or advice.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded and their good care is underpinned by the effective policies and procedures that the childminder has developed. She is familiar with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and has begun to introduce a self-evaluation process to enable her to identify potential strengths within her setting. Children's safety is given a high priority because all aspects of care and play are effectively assessed to reduce potential risks.

The childminder is committed to meeting individual needs and has attended a variety of short courses to support her on-going professional development. She

has also taken positive steps to address the actions made during her registration visit, which has a direct impact on the care of the children.

Children's care is enhanced by the strong relationships between the childminder and parents. Discussions with parents during the settling in period ensure that the childminder has all the necessary information which enables her to establish a basic understanding of children's starting point. The use of daily diaries for each child give parents a full picture about how children spend their time, their progress and achievements. However, they are not fully involved in their child's learning and development. The childminder is beginning to make some links with the other settings who also provide the EYFS. This ensures children attending more than one setting receive a suitable balance of activities to meet their needs.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children confidently explore the surroundings due to the effective organisation of space. They have access to a well-equipped, stimulating playroom which is decorated with children's work and provides a child friendly environment. This helps children feel valued and welcome in the childminder's home. Toys and equipment are plentiful and are of good quality. They are organised to promote children's independence skills and provide them with a broad range of activities and experiences.

Children are confident, self-assured and build strong relationships with each other. They play harmoniously together and take turns with resources. They are happy, settled and build strong and trusting relationships with the childminder. She spends time playing and talking to all children. She shows an interest in what they are doing and praises their achievements. She encourages children to use different tools, for example, straws, cork, bobbins, ear plugs and brushes when creating a colourful fire works picture.

Advance planning and preparation provides children with rich, varied and imaginative experiences, which enhance their all round development. Systems are in place for planning, observation and assessment, but these are at early stages and need developing. The childminder regularly takes the children to groups, which gives them the opportunity to socialise, share resources and explore different play environments.

Children are confident speakers and express themselves freely, for example, when painting they talk about their favourite colour and the fire works display they have been to. Children's knowledge and understanding of the world is promoted through activities, for example, children chose to look at France when celebrating 'International Language Day'. They made French flags, tasted French food and learnt a few words in French.

Children enjoy a good range of healthy and nutritious snacks, which comply with all special dietary requirements and parental wishes. The childminder supports children to adopt good hygiene practices and minimise the risk of cross-infection. However, children's health is compromised as the childminder has not obtained parents'

permission to seek emergency treatment or advice. She reinforces good behaviour with praise and encouragement. Children learn about some aspects of keeping themselves safe, for example, they look for 'the green man' when crossing the road and practise fire evacuations.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

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?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Good

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Satisfactory
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

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

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet Early Years Foundation Stage or General Welfare Requirements.

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.