

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY371993
Inspection date	15/12/2008
Inspector	Lorraine Sparey
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 to care for children since 2008. He lives with his partner, who also works as a childminder from the address in a residential area of New Milton. The whole house is used for childminding, with the exception of the utility room and one of the bedrooms. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The family have two dogs, four cats and a parrot. The childminder is registered to provide care on the Early Years register, and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare register. A maximum of six children may attend at any one time and there are currently two children on roll in the early years age group. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are confident and settled in the childminder's care. Their individual needs are catered for through a variety of activities and play opportunities. The childminder and his co-childminder work very closely together and have dual responsibility for the children. There are some systems in place to ensure the provision is monitored and evaluated. The childminder is committed to training to improve his knowledge and understanding of up-to-date childcare practices.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop systems to monitor the provision and ensure effective contribution to children's observation and development files
- promote children's safety by ensuring that identified risks are effectively addressed

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Detailed policies and procedures ensure that children are safeguarded, and their health and welfare is well supported. Both childminders provide shared care for the children. However, the co-childminder is currently responsible for completing children's diaries, observations and assessments. The childminder demonstrates clear knowledge and understanding of potential signs and symptoms of abuse and effective procedures to follow in the event of a concern being raised. Risk assessments are completed, however, at times identified risks are not always actioned effectively. For example, children partially squeeze through the stairgate as one of the upright bars is missing. The childminder is committed to training to extend his knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework (EYFS) and other relevant training.

Good relationships between the childminder, co-childminder and parents ensure that children's individual needs are met. The childminder regularly liaises with

parents on an informal basis and provide them with information on planned outings and activities through written newsletters. All documentation ensures dual responsibility for both childminders to enable them to have greater flexibility in meeting children's needs. Good information is provided on how observations link to the various areas of children's learning and are colour coded for quick reference.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are well supported in their play and learning. The childminder provides a broad range of play and learning opportunities. Children's language and social skills develop through attending a variety of toddler groups throughout the week. They benefit from the childminder knowing their interests and planning accordingly. Children choose from a wide range of resources and many are stored at child height to encourage independent access. Children's learning is further enhanced by the childminder using effective questioning and positive interaction. During a play dough activity the childminder encourages children's physical skills, using rollers rolling and cutters to make shapes. They talk about the colours, rolling the dough backwards, and forwards.

Children's health is well supported. They enjoy a range of healthy and nutritious snacks and meals. Children follow appropriate hygiene routines and have good opportunities to exercise, increasing their awareness of maintaining healthy lifestyles. Children's awareness of supporting their own safety is promoted through discussion. A child stands on a dining chair and the childminder explains that they may fall. Children are becoming familiar with the evacuation procedures as they practise them on a regular basis. Children's behaviour is good given their age and stage of development. They respond well to the childminder's consistent use of praise and encouragement. There are good procedures in place to support children who have English as an additional language such as displaying words in the child's first language.

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
---	-----

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 registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted.

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.