

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY374841
Inspection date	25/11/2008
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 2008. She lives in a mid-terrace house in a residential area of East Cowes on the Isle of Wight. The childminder is also a registered foster carer and has a looked after teenager residing at the premises. There is a secure rear garden available for outdoor play. The premises are within walking distance to local shops, parks and schools. The childminder is registered to provide care for a maximum of four children at any one time, and is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. Currently the childminder has three children on roll; of these one is in the early years age group and attends part time. The childminder's operational hours are Monday to Friday from 07:30 to 18:00.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children make steady progress in most areas of their learning and enjoy the time they spend with the childminder. The childminder works alongside parents to ensure all children's individual welfare needs are appropriately supported. Since registration, the childminder has attended training for the Early Years Foundation Stage and this has provided her with some knowledge of how she can support children to learn and develop through a range of activities. However, she does not ensure all children have the opportunity to engage in all activities available. The childminder can readily identify her strengths; however, because she has not started to self evaluate the provision she offers she is not fully aware of the areas for improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop knowledge and understanding of the EYFS to ensure all children are supported to make progress in all aspects of their learning and development, paying particular attention to the opportunities children have to explore media and materials
- implement a system for monitoring and evaluating the provision to ensure areas for improvement are identified and appropriate action taken so the needs of all children are met

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

- ensure a record of risk assessment for each type of outing is maintained (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

12/12/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a range of written policies and procedures which she shares with parents. These, along with most records that are required for the safe and efficient management of the EYFS provision, ensure the needs of all children are met.

The childminder has a very 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. She ensures in the event of an emergency situation children are only cared for by adults that have been suitably vetted and her constant supervision of children ensures they are kept safe.

The childminder takes appropriate action to ensure children are kept free from harm. For example, in response to a discussion at registration on how children's safety could be assured with some furnishings in the lounge, the childminder has safety filmed all low level glass.

The childminder has established good working relationships with parents; she exchanges information with them about some of the activities their children have engaged in, the progress they have made and the care they have been provided with. Parents are encouraged to discuss with the childminder any achievements their child has made or interests they may have expressed at home and the childminder uses this information to provide further activities.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder interacts well with the children and spends her time engaging and playing with them. Warm caring relationships are evident and children are confident to explore their environment and develop a sense of belonging. Resources are organised so that children can independently access them and young children are given the space to move around and develop their physical skills. The childminder constantly talks with toddlers to enable them to link actions with words.

The childminder observes children while they play and uses this information to informally plan for their individual next steps in learning. The childminder knows the children well and follows their interests. Although the childminder has some knowledge of the EYFS she is not fully aware of the potential learning young children can gain through activities that encourage them to explore media and materials. As a result, she does not provide them with the opportunity to engage alongside other children in activities such as painting, mark making or playing with sand, water or malleable materials.

Children thoroughly enjoy playing with musical toys and show an interest in toys with buttons. They are beginning to socialise with other children through their regular attendance at a toddler group and on outings the childminder takes them on with other childminders and their children.

The childminder carries out a risk assessment for the home environment and through her guidance and the conversations she has with children they are learning how to keep safe. However, although she has knowledge of the potential dangers children may be exposed to when they are taken out of the home she does not maintain records to show a risk assessment for each outing has been carried out.

Children are provided with a healthy, balanced diet taking into account parents' wishes. Parents provide packed lunches for their children and the childminder supplements this with snacks of fresh fruit and toast. Drinks are readily available to children throughout the day. Children's health is further promoted through good opportunities for being outdoors in the fresh air; they go for walks around the local area and on outings to parks and ball play pits.

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:	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.