

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY376035
Inspection date	21/01/2009
Inspector	Diane Mary O'Neill
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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 2008. She lives in the village of Cranfield, Bedfordshire. The whole ground floor and two bedrooms of the childminder's house are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is currently minding two children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The family has no pets. The childminder is able to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The childminder walks to the local parent/toddler groups.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children make adequate progress in their learning as they enjoy a range of activities within the Early Years Foundation Stage. Observation and planning is in its infancy. However, the childminder has not fully addressed certain areas to ensure children's safety and well-being is supported effectively at all times. There are suitable systems in place for the sharing of information with parents to ensure all individual needs are catered for. The childminder is able to evaluate her practice so that she may continually improve welfare and learning opportunities for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure there are clear procedures to follow in the event of a child being lost
- develop further the use of observation and assessment to plan and challenge the next steps in children's developmental progress, reviewing these assessment regularly.

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

- provided evidence of a completed first aid course (Safeguarding and welfare). This also applies to the General Childcare register 28/02/2009
- ensure parent's signature is in place for emergency medical treatment (Safeguarding and welfare). 28/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are adequately protected and safeguarded whilst in the childminder's care as she is fully aware of her responsibilities to ensure that children are safe from harm or neglect. The childminder has clear policies and guidance which help her follow appropriate procedures should she have any concerns.

The childminder organises her documentation fairly well as she uses that which is produced by the National Childminding Association. She has drawn up policies and procedures which adequately reflect the areas of her practice. However, she has not addressed the procedures she would follow if a child become lost child whilst in her care, therefore, children's safety may be compromised. She ensures that parents are made fully aware of the information to support her practice as this is available at all times for them to see. She takes great steps to find out about the families and their cultures and backgrounds, for example, learning about the Muslim faith. She does this by going to the library, trawling the internet and speaking with the parents so that she can understand and help children learn about others. The childminder takes time to discuss a child's daily routines and any achievements they have made with the parents. This enables them to be included and informed about their child's day.

The childminder has worked hard to develop a very formalised self-evaluation process with which to monitor her own progress and areas for further development and improvement. She also involves the parents by drawing up a questionnaire so she can see how they feel about her practice. This information helps her towards further improving the care and learning opportunities she can give to children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder ensures children's safety and well-being within a relatively safe environment by carrying out visual and recorded risk assessments. The childminder works closely with the parents to ensure all children's needs are met. For example, she obtains information about their dietary requirements and prepares some children's meals which the parents provide. Children are taught about health and safety within the daily routines the childminder has in place. The childminder has policies which outline exclusion periods for certain illnesses. She also has a list of communicable diseases for guidance of exclusion periods so she can reduce the possibility of cross infection to others. Although the required documentation is in place for the recording of accidents and the giving of any medical assistance, the childminder has not obtained written parental consent for emergency medical treatment. She has not yet completed the necessary training to obtain a recognised first aid certificate; therefore children's health and well-being may be compromised.

The childminder has only just started minding and has not fully developed her planning and observations to help plan activities in order to successfully track and challenge children's learning opportunities. The childminder has started to take some notes of children's achievements and record in a manner that she can then

share with the parents. The childminder has a brief plan on display of the visits she intends to do with the children, for example, attending a music group, toddler group and trips to the park. She ensures that she provides fun and varied activities for the children to assist them in their learning. The children currently cared for by the childminder are very young and so she plans activities accordingly. For example, they enjoy pushing an activity walker and are beginning to find their confidence as they take several steps. They enjoy pressing the buttons on the walker which makes it light up and play music which they like to rock to. They are beginning to learn their colours and shapes as they play with shape sorters. Children's communication and language is well supported by the childminder, as she talks to them, shows them pictures in books and they are beginning to use crayons and chalks to develop their mark making skills.

Children have some opportunities to learn about the wider world through trips out in the local community, such as going to a Chinese restaurant, the library to obtain books and other resources. Children's behaviour is good. They happily play together, are beginning to learn to share, take turns and respect one another. The childminder is supportive and offers gentle reminders when needed.

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.	2

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?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

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?	3
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 provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary 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 stated in the Early Years register 28/02/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as stated in the Early Years register 28/02/2009

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 complaint record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

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