

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	161919
Inspection date	30/06/2009
Inspector	Catherine Louise Sample

Type of setting	Childminder
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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 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 1998. She lives in an easily accessible house in North Bradley with her husband and three children who are aged 13, 10 and two years. All areas of the house are used for childminding purposes, including a fully enclosed garden.

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 total of five children at any one time, of whom two may be in the early years age range. There are currently 11 children on roll who attend for a variety of sessions, of whom three are in the early years age group. The childminder is registered to provide overnight care.

The childminder is currently completing a level 3 qualification in childcare and education.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are making good progress in this supportive and welcoming setting. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure that she can identify and meet children's needs effectively. She adapts activities to ensure that all can take part and fulfil their individual potential. She monitors the provision and takes positive steps to improve outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop planning to provide relevant and motivating learning experiences specific to individual children
- extend the range of resources available to help children learn about difference and diversity

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children benefit from the excellent partnership between the childminder and the parents. Information is shared through a wide variety of methods. This ensures that children's needs and parental requests can be met and that parents are closely involved with their children's learning. The childminder has excellent links with other providers where children attend more than one setting. She shares children's 'learning journey' books and has regular discussion with their key workers. Children are learning about wider society through activities, such as celebrating festivals from other cultures. They also use a basic range of resources that show positive images of diversity and various posters in the playroom show language and children from around the world.

Children's welfare is promoted through the efficient maintenance of all necessary records and the effective implementation of a wide range of policies and procedures. The childminder has made a comprehensive risk assessment, which she reviews frequently. She has a daily safety checklist that she completes before children arrive. She has completed child protection training and takes highly effective steps to safeguard children, such as refusing entry to anyone unknown and keeping a record of visitors. She monitors the provision by seeking feedback from children and parents and reviewing each child's progress. She reflects on her practice and can identify areas for further development, such as making an accessibility audit of her home. She has made many improvements to her practice since the last inspection and has started a level 3 childcare and education qualification, which demonstrates her commitment to further development.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's safety is paramount. The childminder has an excellent awareness of safety issues and takes positive steps to ensure children's safety, such as giving them high visibility vests and identification wrist bands to wear when on outings. Children are learning highly effectively about how to stay safe. They have visited both the fire station and the police station and met a lollipop lady who taught them about road safety. They are also learning about healthy eating and good hygiene practice. There are signs displayed reminding them to wash their hands and a board that shows different fruits they can have for snack. Children are very well behaved. They are good at sharing and taking turns and know the agreed house rules. They have good relationships with one another and older children show concern for younger children.

Children enjoy a good balance of planned and self-chosen activities and have easy access to an extensive range of resources that cover all areas of their development. They particularly like to play outside on the various apparatus and splash in the water. They explore texture and use tools as they manipulate play dough and engage in lively role-play as they pretend to be builders. The childminder makes regular observations of children's progress and reviews these quarterly. She uses them to identify children's next steps and to inform her general planning. She has a good awareness of the next steps that each child need to take, although this is not clearly shown in her written planning.

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?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	1

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?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
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

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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