

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY350655
<b>Inspection date</b>	09 April 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Coral Hales
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Childminding

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### 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*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2007. She lives with her partner and their two children aged nearly two and six in Portsmouth, Hampshire. All areas of the property are registered for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is also registered for overnight care for two children. She is currently minding two children aged over five before and after school and in the holidays. She also cares for children over the age of eight. The childminder walks/drives to local schools to take and collect children. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean home where they learn suitable hygiene routines and personal care. They are effectively protected from the spread of infection as the childminder keeps her parents informed that she does not care for children who are infectious. She is trained

in administering first aid and has appropriate accident and medication documentation, which is shared with parents. Consent to seek emergency treatment/advice is maintained.

Children's health is promoted by a nutritious and balanced diet. Meals are freshly prepared and information about meal choices is discussed with the children. The childminder discusses children's dietary needs with parents and takes account of their wishes and they work closely together to meet the children's needs. Drinks are available at all times. Children enjoy taking part in cookery activities and this helps them to develop an understanding of different foods and ingredients.

Children enjoy the fresh air and plenty of physical exercise as they access the garden, for example, to play football. They visit the park, which is well resourced to help develop their physical skills, such as climbing and control of their body as they use a variety of equipment. Children enjoy going out for walks to feed the ducks, to go crab fishing and to use local amenities.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming home where risks have generally been identified and minimised. The childminder is aware of children's developing abilities and ensures that most appropriate safety measures are in place. For example, smoke alarms are used and a fire blanket is sited in the kitchen. The childminder has discussed fire evacuations in the past, however, she has not practised any with all the children now attending. The premises are secure and children are unable to leave them unsupervised. This enables children to move freely and develop their play and ideas in a safe environment. The garden is generally safe for the children to use and the childminder has agreed to make safe the shed window and remove excess washing line. Suitable procedures are in place to ensure young children are kept safe when using the car.

Children access a sufficient range of safe and maintained furniture, equipment and resources. These are stored appropriately and enable the children to self-select to develop their own play ideas and games.

Children are protected as the childminder understands her role in child protection, however, she is not secure in her knowledge of current child protection issues or of the guidance issued by the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled and relaxed. They independently choose from a suitable selection of resources, building on their natural curiosity as learners. For example, they decide to play twister and involve the childminder in their game. Together they discuss colour, read and follow simple instructions and enjoy taking part. Children are interested in taking part in cooking activities and, for example, help to make pizzas for their lunch.

Children enjoy regular outings, for example, to the park, to feed the ducks or to go crab fishing, and are planning a visit to the cinema. This broadens their range of experiences and social development. They enjoy a relaxed session after a day at school and play games, take part in craft activities and enjoy playing outside or taking part in musical games.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled in the childminder's care and follow regular daily routines which are based around the school runs. They are beginning to develop a positive view of society, although the childminder has limited resources and does not always effectively promote diversity. They have opportunities to meet different individuals as they explore the local and wider community during outings. Although there are no children currently attending with learning difficulties and/or disabilities the childminder is able to provide care through discussing their needs with parents. Children's understanding of right and wrong is increased as they begin to learn what is expected of them and they play well together, behaving well.

Children are looked after in accordance with the wishes of the parents and written agreements are in place to ensure all are aware of their roles and responsibilities. The childminder has a basic understanding of how to deal with complaints, however, she is not fully secure in her knowledge of the new guidance issued. Therefore, parents are not well informed about the correct procedure to follow if they have a concern. Systems are in place to establish and exchange information about the care of the children at the start of the childminding arrangement. This helps to ensure continuous and consistent care for the children. General information is verbally exchanged on a daily basis regarding the children's well-being and routines.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The premises are organised to meet the needs of the children and create an accessible and safe environment that allows them to play and learn whilst being effectively supervised. Children have opportunities for free play and also to participate in activities planned by the childminder, such as cooking. Regular outings allow the children to experience the local and wider community.

Children's welfare and care is generally promoted because the childminder has a suitable knowledge of the documentation and records to be kept. Most required documentation is in place, made available for inspection and stored safely to maintain confidentiality. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards. 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.

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

#### The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- practise emergency evacuations with the children to ensure that procedures can be followed quickly and effectively
- develop knowledge of the new guidance relating to complaints and ensure parents are informed
- develop knowledge and understanding of how to promote children's interest and understanding about diversity
- develop knowledge of the new Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)