

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	137701
<b>Inspection date</b>	16/10/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Caren Carpenter
<b>Type of setting</b>	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 1984. She lives with her husband and adult daughter in a three bed-roomed split level first floor flat. The living room is used for childminding. Access to the premises is by stairs only.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding five children under eight years on a part time basis.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Children are happy and feel secure in the childminder's care because she knows their individual needs very well. The childminder discusses children's individual needs carefully with parents so that she can settle them and avoids disrupting familiar routines and comforts. Children benefit from positive interaction from the childminder which successfully helps them to make good progress in the learning and development. They are motivated to explore new skills because; the childminder encourages them in a lively way and rewards them with lots of praise. Although, the childminder has not yet completed a written self-evaluation form, she has the ability to identify areas of her practice that she would like to develop.

## **What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?**

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

- gain knowledge of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures to ensure children's welfare is protected
- ensure parents provide written information about their children's dietary requirements or food allergies
- obtain resources to promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

The childminder's home is welcoming and well organised. Resources are readily accessible and daily routines are planned to provide a well-balanced day for the children to have a wide range of experiences, both in the home and the local community.

Although, the childminder has a good knowledge of child protection issues and

understands the importance of reporting any concerns, she is not yet familiar with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedure. As a result, children's welfare is not fully protected. All household members are suitably vetted.

The childminder is able to recognise areas of her strengths and weaknesses and has considered how she will continue to improve her practice. For example, she has a positive attitude towards personal development and has attended additional training courses such as, fire safety awareness, food and hygiene.

The childminder works effectively with parents and shares daily information with them about how their children are progressing and developing. She is now planning how this can be extended to enable her to form links with the children's school, to benefit the children's development and to ensure continued learning.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Children are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder has a positive attitude towards inclusive practice and works closely with parents to provide for their children's care needs. However, parents have not provided written information about their children's dietary requirements in regards to food allergies. Consequently children's welfare is not fully promoted. In addition children do not have access to play resources that helps them to gain understanding of the wider world.

Children are very happy in the childminder's care. They are busy and curious and enjoy investigating and exploring the wide range of play resources that are available to them. The childminder skilfully recognises each child as an individual and provides activities to meet their specific needs. For example, younger children's fascination with bags leads the childminder to include a range of interesting objects in bags. This encourages children to investigate and explore developing their natural curiosity as learners.

The childminder plans good opportunities for children to visit various places of interest and to participate in a wide range of interesting activities. For example, they thoroughly enjoy their time at Primrose Hill, RAF museum and the National History Museum. This contributes effectively to children's learning and play experiences. Older children attending school are helped daily to complete their home work. For example, the childminder offers support in developing their reading skills and mathematical development. This clearly demonstrates the childminder's commitment in supporting and promoting children's learning and development.

The childminder creates a secure and welcoming home for the children. She has a written risk assessment in place and minimises potential risk by checking her home daily and assessing risks to children when they are outside of the home.

Children have good opportunities to be active such as, when involved in different outings and physical games. The childminder ensures that children are provided with healthy and nutritious meals and snacks which support their individual dietary needs. In addition, the childminder ensures all children have drinking water readily

available for them at all times.

The childminder understands how to manage children's behaviour appropriately. For example, she praises their achievement to promote self-esteem and confidence. She recognises the importance of having a consistent approach and works closely with parents in order to achieve this.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### 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*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Good

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Satisfactory
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	Good
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

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](http://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

## **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 the last inspection

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.