

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	102404
<b>Inspection date</b>	23/10/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Nicola Jayne Pascoe
<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).

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 1994. She lives with her husband and three adult children in Penryn, Cornwall. The premises are generally accessible, although toilet facilities are on the first floor. Children use all areas of the childminders home except the dining room. A secure garden area is used for outdoor play activities. The childminder keeps chickens, a guinea pig and two dogs. A maximum of six children aged from birth to eight years may attend the setting at any one time. The childminder may also provide overnight care for a maximum of two children.

There are currently three children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). All children live locally. The childminder also offers care to children aged five years to ten years old. The provision is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA) and Cornwall Childminding Association (CMA). She is also an active member of the local childminding support group and receives support from the local authority.

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

The childminder is successful in providing an inclusive environment for all, as she has an excellent knowledge of children's individual needs. She is extremely effective in the promotion of their welfare and learning. Although basic systems to monitor and evaluate areas for improvement are in place, children benefit from the childminders exceptionally high level of commitment to continuous improvement in her practice. Children enjoy extensive opportunities to learn about their local area and the wider world. The childminder has established very positive relationships with children and their parents.

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

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- further extend the arrangements for reviewing, monitoring and evaluating the childminding practice

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

The childminder is extremely knowledgeable and experienced, she demonstrates an exceptional level of commitment and ensures that she attends all relevant training to further extend her skills. She is a member of a particularly supportive and proactive local childminding support group. The childminders home is exceedingly well organised and she has developed and implemented successful systems to ensure that children are effectively safeguarded at all times. She

demonstrates confidence in her ability to successfully deliver the EYFS and to maintain extremely high standards of care and learning.

The childminder has developed and implemented a comprehensive range of written policies and procedures to share with parents. She provides children with an excellent range of interesting toys and resources which are freely accessible, and these are rotated on a regular basis to provide children with variety. The childminder gathers excellent levels of information regarding children's individual needs and uses this information effectively to ensure children are happy, safe and well cared for. Children have formed exceptionally strong and trusting relationships with the childminder and they also benefit from opportunities to develop new friendships and enjoy social occasions and outings together.

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

Children are extremely happy and content as they busy themselves in worthwhile and enjoyable activities with the childminder and other children. The childminder provides a particularly safe and secure environment in which children of all ages are able to self-select their favourite toys and engage in purposeful planned activities. A vast range of suitable resources are freely available, as they are attractively stored at child-height in low level, open-fronted units in the large and spacious conservatory. Children are developing a sense of responsibility and respect for their environment, as at regular intervals they are actively involved in tidying away toys and equipment. They follow familiar and effective health and hygiene routines as they wash hands regularly and at appropriate times. They confidently explain why it is important to do so as it has a positive impact on their health. They enjoy healthy and nutritious meals and snacks, benefit from free access to drinking water and are cared for sensitively and appropriately by the childminder when they are unwell. Children are also developing an awareness and understanding of maintaining their own safety. For example, they discuss with the childminder why it is important not to run indoors and why they should hold hands when climbing up and down the steps.

Children benefit from the childminder's particularly high level of support and interaction. For example, they involve her in their chosen activity, chatter enthusiastically together and share ideas and suggestions for developing play further. The childminder listens attentively to children and is successful in extending their vocabulary further through the introduction of new words and phrases. Children are confident to ask lots of questions and are comfortable in the knowledge that they will be listened to, respected and answered in full. They enjoy selecting favourite books to share with the childminder when they become tired later in the afternoon. Children benefit from the childminder's active involvement in the local childminder support group, as they enjoy regular opportunities for social interaction and outings to local places of interest. They attend local toddler groups, the toy library and have visited the nearby recycling centre to extend their knowledge of environmental issues. Children benefit from the use of an extensive range of toys, books and visual aids which positively promote an awareness and understanding of the wider world. The childminder plans to provide children with stimulating new experiences, such as travelling by a variety of different types of transport. Children

enthusiastically welcome additional levels of responsibility, as under the supervision of the childminder they feed the chickens which are kept in the garden. They are rewarded with a freshly laid, warm egg which they carefully wash and cook for lunch.

The childminder knows children very well and demonstrates an excellent understanding of their specific needs, preferences and abilities. She uses this knowledge effectively to ensure that children's welfare is promoted and that children are extremely well supported and encouraged in the learning and development. Children enjoy a broad and balanced range of interesting activities. They follow a familiar daily and weekly routine which not only meets their individual needs, but also promotes their sense of belonging and effectively reinforces their understanding of the passing of time. As a result, children are free to relax and play happily, safe in the knowledge that they will be exceptionally well cared for until they are collected by their parent. The childminder has developed and implemented effective systems to assess children's progress and as a result, she plans appropriate activities to extend their learning further. Children's achievements are valued and celebrated. The childminder uses suitable systems with which to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of her practice and recognises the value of developing this further. She obtains and shares very good levels of information with parents, as she recognises the importance of maintaining close and trusting relationships with children and their families.

## 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>	Outstanding
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Outstanding
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Outstanding

### Leadership and management

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

### Quality and standards

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

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
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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 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.