

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	401867
<b>Inspection date</b>	25/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Sue Taylor
<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 1986. She lives with her husband and two adult child in Ninfield, near Battle, Sussex. The ground floor is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. There is no use of the first floor. The childminder has two rabbits and two guinea pigs as pets.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding one child in the early years age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder collects children from the local school and attends toddler groups on a regular basis.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. There have been positive changes made since the last inspection, showing a willingness to improve. The childminder gets to know children well and this helps ensure their individual care needs are met. She is developing her practices in how she effectively supports children's ongoing development and learning. Overall, an inclusive and welcoming environment is provided. Children benefit from the childminder's warm and caring approach.

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

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

- note children's progress towards the early learning goals, ensuring this is shared with parents and encourage them to be involved in the assessment process
- develop the assessment process to ensure that the identified next steps for each child are fully evaluated and the information gained is used to move them on in their progress towards the early learning goals
- improve opportunities for children in developing the knowledge, skills and understanding that help them to make sense of the world
- ensure that the smoke detectors are positioned correctly for the early detection of fire
- develop the risk assessment record and ensure it includes each type of outing.

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

- ensure that information about the procedures to be followed in the event of a parent failing to collect a child at the appointed time or in the event of a child

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going is provided to parents (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare).

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

The childminder ensures her home is clean, safe and secure. There are smoke detectors on both floors, although not sited in the most effective position to ensure prompt fire detection. The childminder has a risk assessment record in place, although it does not fully explore how and why hazards are minimised and does not include all types of outings. In the main, the required records and documentation are maintained to help ensure the care needs of all children are met. Since attending relevant training in relation to child protection the childminder has improved her knowledge and awareness in safeguarding children. There are some written policies and procedures that inform parents about her childminding practices. These include the complaints process, child protection and behaviour management. However, detail about some procedures is not regularly shared with parents. As required from the last inspection, the childminder has attended training and holds a valid first aid certificate. This ensures she is aware of the current guidance.

The childminder is noting observations of children's play and records some useful, informative detail in her diary. She is beginning to identify the next steps for individual children, although these are not evaluated effectively to show how she continually supports children's progress. The childminder provides verbal feedback to parents about their child's day. There is limited detail shared about a child's progress towards the early learning goals. In addition, parents are not encouraged to be involved in supporting children's ongoing learning and development, for example with activities at home. As a result, they are not contributing to the assessment of children's progress. Overall, the childminder has an awareness of her strengths and areas for development and demonstrates that she evaluates her own practice, so helping to ensure continuous improvement.

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

Children can play safely, as their toys are age appropriate and some are easily accessed. The childminder supervises children to keep them safe in the home as they access the toilet or the kitchen. They have use of the rear garden for some play in the fresh air, in addition to local walks and trips to the park, that helps develop their physical skills. Children know to wash their hands after the toilet and before eating, however the use of one towel in the bathroom is not effective in reducing the risk of cross contamination. Children have access to drinks during the day with parents providing their food. The childminder ensures she is aware of any individual dietary needs such as allergies.

Positive and caring relationships exist between the children and the childminder. As a result, children are relaxed, confident and happy. A planned start at the childminder's, with detail obtained about the home routine, helps ensure children

settle quickly. The childminder encourages children's developing social skills as they play together in her home or at toddler groups. The childminder gets to know the children, supporting their development and learning through varied activities and outings. She has a good awareness of their likes, dislikes and interests.

Developing systems are in place to help plan for their ongoing progress. Older children partake in some creative activities, such as painting, playing with water, sand or straw. However these are less accessible for younger children. Children are not fully benefiting from resources and activities that encourage exploration or investigation, nor are they gaining a positive awareness of the wider world. The childminder is aware of the benefits of sharing books, talking and singing with children to develop their communication and language skills.

## 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

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	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](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.