

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	203357
<b>Inspection date</b>	09/09/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Lisa Paisley
<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 2000. She lives with her husband and two children aged nine and four years in Canvey Island, Essex. All areas of the childminder's house with the exception of the second floor are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. Disabled access into the home may be limited due to the steps leading to the front door.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five part-time, who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The childminder also looks after one child over five before school and occasionally during the school holidays. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children and attends the local parent and toddler group. The family has a rabbit and a guinea pig as pets.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

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

The childminder makes good provision for children in the EYFS and has some outstanding aspects. A warm, welcoming and comfortable atmosphere is successfully created by the childminder, to ensure all children feel confident and secure within the home. Inclusion is positively promoted as daily activities and play experiences take into account children's individual needs, interests and abilities. Proactive action has been taken by the childminder to ensure links between other professionals, as a result, key messages are exchanged, continuity of care is promoted and children are fully supported in their welfare and learning.

Safeguarding children and partnerships with parents are key strengths as the childminder ensures children are safe at all times and parents are fully involved in their child's care and learning. The childminder has a very good understanding of the national requirements and is proactive in identifying action required to improve her childminding. Effective systems are in place to monitor, assess and evaluate her provision, thus ensuring continuous improvement is maintained.

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

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

- develop further children's assessment and planning records.

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

Space and resources are organised effectively to provide children with interesting and enjoyable play experiences and activities. Daily routines are effectively planned to allow children the time and space to explore activities, maintaining their interests and ensuring consolidation is achieved. Excellent information is obtained from parents regarding the care of individual children and the childminder uses this information effectively to ensure all children's needs are met. A comprehensive range of records and documentation are in place and these are effectively organised to ensure the smooth management of the setting.

Children's welfare is effectively promoted within the home. There is an effective vetting procedure in place. This provides reassurance to parents that the childminder and household members are suitable to have regular contact with children and therefore promotes their safety. Comprehensive risk assessments are in place and are effectively implemented by the childminder, as actions are taken to manage or eliminate risks such as practising fire evacuation procedures and ensuring all low-level sockets are protected. Consequently, the home is safe and secure for the care of minded children. The childminder works in partnership with parents/carers and other agencies to safeguard children. All children are effectively supervised as comprehensive procedures are in place to ensure children's safety when out and about.

Children consistently receive very good care, play and learning experiences, as self assessment procedures have been developed to ensure continuous improvement in all areas of the EYFS.

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

Children receive very good quality care, learning and play experiences. Effective admissions procedures are implemented for new children attending the childminders; this ensures that the transition from home is smooth and successful for children. The childminder successfully creates an effective play and learning environment where good behaviour is valued and inclusion is effectively promoted. Children receive regular praise, encouragement for individual achievements and effective support. They understand house rules which help them learn right from wrong and they have good relationships with other family members. Resources, equipment and play areas are well-organised, ensuring children can access resources safely, fostering choice and independence. A combination of children's art work and posters are displayed, further valuing children and promoting inclusion. Children are fully safeguarded as wide ranging procedures, including the medication and sickness policies and the lost and uncollected child policies are in place, as a result, all potential risks have been minimised and all children are safe and secure.

The childminder has a good understanding of the EYFS, early childhood development and how children learn through play. Activity plans are in place, allowing the childminder to provide a range of activities that capture children's interests, extending and consolidating their learning. However, planning, assessment and observational records require further development to ensure all areas of children's learning are successfully covered and next steps have been identified.

Overall, children make good progress in their learning and development, and excellent progress in their personal, social and emotional development, due to the effective relationships that are made by the childminder. Children have positive attitudes towards their learning as they complete self-chosen tasks. The home both indoors and outside safe, attractive, well resourced and planned to interest the children, promoting all areas of learning. Consequently, children are motivated, secure and confident to use their initiative. Younger children are becoming confident speakers as the childminder spends time with them during activities such as books and stories and creative activities, where she uses clear and effective language to help consolidate and extend children's learning. Children have regular trips out, this includes the local park, beach and shops, helping them develop a sense of the local community. Daily routines allow the children and childminder to discuss everyday events, extending their knowledge of the wider world. Children's imagination and self-expression are developed through the good range of creative and role play activities. There are on going opportunities to help children practise their finer manipulative skills and daily opportunities for outdoor play where they enjoy and are confident in using the tricycles, slide and trampoline, helping their physical development. They enjoy nutritious meals and snacks; the childminder actively encourages children to help prepare their own snacks. The childminder takes into account their religious, cultural or medical requirements. Overall, children's physical development is promoted very well.

## 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?	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>	Good
<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?	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
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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.