

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY375158
<b>Inspection date</b>	08/12/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Jill Nugent
<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 registered in 2008. She lives with her husband and five-year-old child in a house in Roydon. All of the house is used for childminding and there is a secure garden for outdoor play. Access to the house is at ground level immediately off the driveway. The family has two pet cats.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. Currently she is minding three children, all of whom are in the early years age group. She travels to local schools to take and collect children.

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

The childminder offers a welcoming provision where children enjoy a variety of play activities in an attractive environment. Their well-being is prioritised and individual needs are met effectively through a close liaison with parents. The childminder has the capacity to improve her practice in the future through plans to extend her childcare qualifications. She has ideas for developing her provision which will benefit all children's learning and development.

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

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

- develop further the planning of activities for children in order to meet their individual learning needs
- extend the risk assessments to ensure that all risks to children are identified and minimised.

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

The childminder has all the necessary documentation in place, including a set of written policies which provide a sound framework for her practice. She has completed her initial childcare training and in addition, has attended further training in childcare. She has previously worked with children for several years and is fully aware of the procedures required to ensure that all children receive the appropriate care. She is keen to improve her knowledge and understanding through attending relevant courses. Through self-evaluation she is beginning to reflect on her practice in order to highlight areas requiring further development. Her provision is organised effectively around individual children's practical and routine needs.

The childminder is aware of safeguarding issues and knows what to do if she has any concerns about children. She has developed an excellent working partnership with parents and carers. She has regard to parents' wishes when helping children

settle into her care and keeps detailed diaries, sharing these with parents so as to provide a link for children between their home and hers. These work particularly well in highlighting events in children's family life so that she can follow them up within her provision. Her learning records on individual children are especially user friendly, offering a visual record of children's participation and development in play activities. Parents appreciate this feedback and express much satisfaction with the care offered to their children.

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

The childminder makes good use of previous training and experience to offer a variety of relevant learning experiences for children. They enjoy a mix of sensory, creative and physical activities which help them to develop a range of skills. The childminder interacts effectively to support children and raise their awareness of language, literacy and numeracy. For example, when children explore mark-making she describes and counts objects with them. They show great delight as she follows up their own interests and offers much praise. Children develop close relationships with her and in this way, build self-confidence. She has appropriate strategies in place to manage children's behaviour, helping them to show respect and play harmoniously. Their differing needs are taken into account, for instance, older children may choose to relax after school or explore creative materials.

Children are making significant progress in their learning. The childminder makes useful observations of their learning in different situations, collating these into attractive learning records. Through noting children's achievements, annotating photographs and assessing their progress against development charts she builds up a picture of their individual needs. However, she is not yet linking these to her activity planning in order to extend children's skills in relevant activities. Children enjoy the opportunity to explore independently at times, for example, playing music, building models and doing jigsaw puzzles. They develop the capacity to concentrate for longer periods of time and begin to ask questions to develop their own understanding. This mix of child-initiated play and organised activities encourages children to become active participators with an appropriate attitude towards learning.

The childminder promotes children's welfare effectively. She ensures that children are cared for in a safe and healthy environment. There are good safety measures in place on the premises and medical records are well maintained. The childminder conducts regular risk assessments of the house, garden and also some outings, although these are general in nature and do not always identify specific risks. Children talk about keeping themselves safe and learn to adopt good hygiene practices. For example, they wash their hands before eating and clean their teeth afterwards. There are daily opportunities for them to take part in outdoor activities for example, playing in the garden or going out in the village and these help them to keep fit and healthy. They benefit from the childminder's flexible approach in allowing them an element of choice whilst remaining always closely supervised.

## 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>	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
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?	1
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>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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
---	-----

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary 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 registration.

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.