

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	500255
<b>Inspection date</b>	19/01/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Anne Drinkwater
<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 1993. She lives with her husband and adult daughter, who is also a registered childminder, in the Chorlton area of Manchester.

Two playrooms and a conservatory, which is used as a sensory room, are used for childminding and toilet facilities are also located on the ground floor. There is a fully enclosed rear garden with a large garden shed that has been adapted to provide a summer rumpus room.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. To allow her to care for children in the later years she is also registered on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register. There are currently 10 children on roll who attend on a variety of placements, all are within the early years age range. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. The family has a cat.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are very happy and secure in childminder's care and good relationships have been established with parents. Inclusion is very well promoted, especially in relation to children with additional needs. The childminder's secure understanding of the children's individual needs provides them with a broad, challenging and stimulating selection of experiences and activities.

She is in the early stages of implementing the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS); she recognises that systems for self-evaluation, planning and assessment systems are areas for development in order to bring about improvement.

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

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

- develop systems for linking observations and assessments to the EYFS and use to plan for the next steps in the children's learning and development
- develop self evaluation systems for identifying strengths and areas for improvement to raise the quality of care and education

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

- conduct a risk assessment for the environment and each type of outing and maintain a record of these clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Safeguarding and Welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register).

16/02/2009

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

Parents have the highest regard for the service provided by the childminder. She is committed to providing a fully inclusive service for both parents and children. Through policies and procedures parents have a clear understanding of how the childminder's service works in practice. Children's records, development files and observations are readily available for parents to view; information in relation to assessments and planning are areas for development.

The childminder attends relevant training in order to improve her knowledge and to enhance the quality of care provided for children. She has attended first aid training and safeguarding training. In addition, the recommendation made at her last inspection has been successfully met as she regularly provides experiences for children to sample foods from around the world.

The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of safeguarding procedures and her written policy is shared with parents. Children are always fully supervised in their play whilst being actively encouraged to develop safe levels of independence. Most aspects of safety features and requirements are in place to ensure the childminder's home is safe and secure. Children practise fire evacuation procedures frequently, which helps them to be confident of what to do and where to go should the need ever arise. However, the required risk assessments have not been carried out, this is a breach of regulations. Through discussion the childminder is able to critically analyse her practice, identifying her many strengths and the areas for improvement. However, self-evaluation is not yet developed to raise and extend the quality of care and education provided for the children.

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

Young children thrive on the high levels of interaction from the childminder. All her time is spent constructively playing with the children and following their lead. She successfully judges when it is appropriate to let a child play independently and when to intervene and offer support. Space is very well organised within the childminder's home to provide children with lots of room to move around freely and play in comfort. Children thoroughly enjoy the freedom they have as they wander from room to room. A particular favourite is the sensory room where children can relax and explore the environment of mirrors, lights and natural materials. Patio doors give children direct access to the outdoor environment where fixed play equipment and a rumpus room ensure physical play is very well promoted. A good range of accessible play materials are available to support children's learning, making the environment stimulating and welcoming.

Number rhymes, identifying the colour of paint and recognising shapes helps children develop their problem solving and reasoning skills. Making cakes and pizza are popular activities with the children and help foster their awareness of weight and measure. Lots of exciting opportunities are provided for children to learn about their local community. For example, they enjoy visits to the library, pet shops and

the local nature reserve. This allows children to experience alternative play environments, socialise with their peers and acquire new knowledge and skills.

High standards of cleanliness are maintained across the childminder's home and meals provided are well balanced and nutritious. Regular discussions take place to ensure that the children understand the importance of eating a balanced diet. Hand washing is incorporated into the daily routine and the use of paper towels to dry hands helps to prevent the risk of cross-infection. A first aid certificate is maintained to ensure that any minor accidents are dealt with correctly.

The day is informally planned to provide children with a broad range of challenging and interesting activities. The childminder has a good understanding of the importance of learning through play. General and focused observations effectively monitor the activities on offer. They are beginning to build up a clear picture of the children and the milestones that they have achieved.

## 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?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

### 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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the Early Years section of the report (CR5). 16/02/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the Early Years section of the report (CR5). 16/02/2009

## **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.