

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY316512
<b>Inspection date</b>	10/10/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Kate Bryan
<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 2007. She lives with her husband and children aged three and seven years in the city of Leicester. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom on the first floor of the childminder's house are used for childcare purposes and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The home is accessed on the ground floor and there are no problems with access. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and currently has three children on roll. Schools, parks, shops and places of interest are within easy walking or driving distance.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and she cares for children on the early years register, the childcare register and the voluntary childcare register.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The provision for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage is satisfactory. Children are content at the home and the childminder has a good awareness of their individual needs and of providing a suitable range of activities. To achieve this systems are in place with parents and other childcare settings to ensure that information about children is shared. However, systems are not in place to establish what children's starting points are. Children are generally kept safe although there are areas for improvement in the safeguarding children procedures and risk assessments.

The childminder has a sound knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage but has not fully considered how to use observations to inform future planning and progress children's learning. The childminder is beginning to self-evaluate her service but this is not yet effective in identifying improvements.

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

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

- ensure that systems are in place to monitor and evaluate the provision
- ensure that the risk assessment covers all areas of the home, resources and outings
- ensure that systems are in place to establish children's starting points so their strengths and weaknesses can be built on
- ensure that observations are used to inform planning and progress children's learning.

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

- ensure that all concerns about safeguarding children are reported using the Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures

10/11/2008

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

Children's welfare, care and safety are promoted appropriately because the childminder has undertaken training to improve her skills, for example, she has completed the following courses, an introduction to planning, observation and assessment, an Introduction to Childcare Practice, first aid, food hygiene and health and safety. Consequently, children receive care from a childminder who has current knowledge and can provide a suitable range of experiences to encourage their play and learning.

Most records, policies and procedures are maintained appropriately although the risk assessment does not cover all areas of the home, resources and outings. This means children's safety is compromised. All policies and procedures are shared with parents at admission so they are clear how their child will be cared for, this includes a safeguarding children policy. However, the childminder's understanding of how to report concerns to the appropriate organisation is not sufficient to fully protect children's welfare.

Children's safety in the home and on outings is maintained well because the childminder has measures in place to promote this. For example, when children are out they wear wrist bands and the childminder has spoken to them about issues, such as road safety and stranger danger. Household members are appropriately vetted to ensure children's safety is maintained.

The childminder is beginning to evaluate her service but systems are not sufficiently robust to identify improvements. She ensures she speaks with parents daily about their child's progress and keeps them informed of the themes she is working on with children. This enables parents to continue their child's learning at home.

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

The childminder provides satisfactory support to enhance children's welfare, learning and development. Children's health is well promoted as they have daily opportunities to play outdoors and make regular use of local parks which have equipment, such as climbing frames, which extend challenges for them. The childminder supplies home cooked food for children and they have their own named bottles for drink which they can access when they wish. This helps them to be responsible for their own health needs.

Within the home space is well organised to enable children to participate in a varied range of activities and to access toys of their choice. Older children can make choices about their resources which promotes their independence, for smaller children these are rotated to ensure they have a good variety to enhance their play and learning. The childminder ensures that activities are adapted so all children can join in.

The childminder has a sound awareness of working with parents although systems are not in place to identify children's starting points, this means their strengths and interests are not effectively built on. Activities are planned which cover all areas of learning but observations are not used to inform future planning which helps to progress children. A suitable range of adult-led activities, such as making cards are planned. Children are also encouraged to develop and initiate their own play so they gain confidence. For example, painting and making shapes with pom-poms. Children have good opportunities to practise counting as they count cars on the way to school and sing along to nursery rhymes. They can access a good range of books independently and the childminder also makes use of the library so children are involved in choosing books which help progress their early reading skills. The childminder spends a lot of time talking to children and encourages language development in young children by repeating words and praising their efforts so they know these have been acknowledged.

A good range of festivals are acknowledged which promotes children's awareness of the wider world and through this the childminder ensures children learn to respect and value different beliefs and cultures. Children behave well and demonstrate good skills in sharing as they play happily with their friends. Positive relationships exist and children respond well to encouragement, this means they are confident in the childminder's care and can approach her for support when needed. For example, as they played 'The Hungry Gorilla' game.

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

### Leadership and management

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

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	Satisfactory
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
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?	Satisfactory

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.