

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	123541
<b>Inspection date</b>	08/10/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Suman Willis
<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 has been registered since 1994. The childminder lives with her mother in St. Albans, close to local schools and other amenities. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding. Children do not generally access upstairs except to use the family bathroom and one bedroom is used to provide undisturbed sleep. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, Childcare Register and Voluntary Childcare Register to provide care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time. She is currently minding one child in the early years age group and one in the voluntary childcare register.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children's learning and development is effectively promoted and major aspects of their welfare are satisfactory. Most policies and procedures help to recognise the uniqueness of each child, and procedures to support children's individual needs are generally good. This enables them to make good progress in their learning and development. There are adequate systems in place to involve parents and carers. The childminder has a positive attitude to improvement and is beginning to develop her policies and procedures in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

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

- develop procedures to involve parents and other agencies in the children's learning and development
- obtain written permission from parents for taking children on outings, transporting children in the car, taking photographs of children and making observations.
- provide opportunities for children to develop an understanding of different cultures and beliefs in their play and learning

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

- must keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after and their hours of attendance.

27/10/2008

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She has developed good procedures which enable her to monitor children's progress effectively. A broad range of resources are organised to promote children's independence. Outings to places, such as, the library, animal farm and park are planned to provide challenges and extend children's understanding of their local community. The childminder provides a well balanced range of free choice and adult-led activities and encourages all children to participate at their own level. Risk assessments are carried out regularly and areas of risk identified appropriately. Children's health needs are adequately promoted. The childminder ensures that all adults are appropriately vetted to safeguard children. However, documents and procedures to promote partnership with parents and to develop children's understanding of different cultures and beliefs are not sufficient.

The childminder is beginning to develop procedures in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has successfully addressed the recommendation from the last inspection by attending training in child protection. The childminder is considering using the self-evaluation to enable her to identify her strengths and weaknesses.

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

Children are encouraged to make progress through a variety of activities and their independence is fully promoted as they choose their own resources. Their interest is fully sustained as they engage in role play using a variety of small world equipment. Children are very well supported in their play by the childminder who joins in and provides challenge as she asks open-ended questions. Good systems are in place to monitor children's progress which would be further enhanced by involving parents. Children respond with enthusiasm as they learn to use scissors to cut shapes to stick onto their pictures. They use language creatively as they talk about making ladybirds. Children learn problem solving through their daily routines.

Children's welfare is appropriately promoted because systems to keep children safe and healthy are implemented into everyday routines. They are taken out daily and have regular fresh air and exercise. Children are well nourished as the parents provide healthy meals and snacks. They learn about simple hygiene practices as they wash their hands after outdoor play and before meals. Children's safety is effectively promoted through clear routines and appropriate resources such as safety gates and socket covers. They learn about road safety as they go on daily outings. Children's independence is promoted as they help themselves to drinks. They manage their behaviour very well and are developing their confidence and self-esteem as they are warmly praised for their achievements.

Overall, children are making progress in all six areas of learning which set the foundation for later learning. They learn about their community as they are taken on outings to the park, toddler groups and the local library. However, opportunities to develop children's understanding of other cultures and beliefs are limited.

## 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?	Satisfactory
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>	Good
<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?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Satisfactory
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 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.