

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY306532
<b>Inspection date</b>	10/10/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Timothy Butcher
<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 2005. She lives with her husband and three children aged 11 months, five and 11 years in Weston Village, Weston-Super-Mere. All of the ground floor and two bedrooms and a bathroom on the first floor of the property are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family have a dog. Access to the property is flat with a small step at the threshold.

The childminder is registered to care for up to four children under the age of eight years at any one time. She may provide overnight care for up to one child under eight years. There are currently three children attending on a part-time basis who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This provision is also registered by Ofsted on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. Two children from this age group attend on a part-time basis after school. The childminder also looks after children over the age of eight years. The childminder walks to school to take and collect children and has use of a car. She attends local childminding and toddler groups and takes children to other amenities. The childminder has two assistants with whom she works with on occasion.

The childminder holds an Extended Childcare Practice qualification in Early Years.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder promotes many aspects of children's welfare, learning and development with success. Children make satisfactory progress, however, the childminder's understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage is somewhat limited and as a result children's learning is not always maximised. The childminder is in breach of a specific welfare requirement as she does not request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

The childminder's practice is inclusive as she has a sound knowledge of each child's background and needs. Children are warmly welcomed and enjoy warm interactions with the childminder. The childminder has some basic processes in place to help her evaluate her practice and has identified some of the areas for further improvement.

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

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

- develop knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and track children's developmental progress more closely when planning for their next steps in development.
- develop processes for monitoring and self evaluation.

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

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment (General Welfare Requirement).

24/10/2008

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

With one exception, the written policies and procedures that are in place meet the general welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and suitably contribute to the safe and smooth running of the provision. Medication documentation is complete and accidents are consistently recorded. Children's welfare in an emergency is potentially undermined because the appropriate consent has not been sought. Children enjoy a safe and secure environment in which to play. A thorough risk assessment has been undertaken but has yet to be reviewed. Potential risks to children are managed well, for example, stair gates restrict children's movement and prevent them from entering areas unsupervised. The childminder has a clear understanding of how to safeguard children should she have a concern. Adults assisting her have been suitably checked.

The childminder wishes to provide the best care for children but has yet to make effective use of systems that evaluate her practice. She has successfully identified some new documentation that she wishes to introduce and identified some EYFS training she wishes to undertake. This has yet to lead to improvement in the outcomes for children.

Suitable partnerships with parents and carers exist. The care arrangements are discussed and agreed. Parents are asked to share what they know about their child. Young children's home sleep routines are followed. Information about the child's day, such as food intake and nappy changes is shared. Children are happy and secure. The childminder organises her home and her resources well enabling children suitable opportunities to play and to become independent. The setting's policies and procedures support the provision of an inclusive service. The provider has yet to liaise with other providers delivering the EYFS such as the local pre-school group.

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

The childminder provides a satisfactory range of activities and play opportunities for children to meet their general developmental needs across each area of learning. She has yet to develop a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and to use this to effectively track and closely plan for children's next steps in development. She uses her sound understanding of child development to adequately support children's learning through play. Children have easy access to a number of toy resources arranged around the playroom. Children independently choose prams and dolls to engage in imaginative role play and happily move from room to room. The childminder rotates her toy resources in and out of use to provide variety and some challenge to children.

The childminder makes discerning use of childminding and other groups. Children mix with others and experience additional play activities. The childminder takes account of children's interests when planning activities. She makes some observations of what children do, takes photographs and retains some of their art work. However, overall her systems for tracking children's progress are incomplete. This is particularly so for those children who do not attend the childminding group. As a result children are not always presented with enough challenge and activities are not always sufficiently well targeted towards their next steps in development.

Children have suitable opportunities for creative play. They enjoy making a necklace from pasta and happily explore paint. They regularly take their play outside into the garden. The childminder routinely encourages them to repeat back sounds and words and asks questions that stimulate their language and thinking. Children enjoy the regular visits out such as to the park, visits to the fire service and to toddler groups.

Sound arrangements exist to ensure children's health and safety. The childminder offers explanation to teach children about how to keep each other safe such as when younger children are engaged in floor play close by. They are kept safe when out with the childminder and are safely strapped into the push chair. The premises are secure and children play in a suitably child-friendly environment.

Sound relationships with parents enable the sharing of information and gives the childminder a clear understanding of the care needs of children. Documents show that parents comment positively about the setting. The childminder has a sound knowledge of each child's background and has a sound understanding of the uniqueness of each child. Some information about their starting points is gathered. Currently children's developmental progress is shared with parents verbally.

## 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>	Satisfactory
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	Inadequate
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Inadequate
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Satisfactory
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 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.