

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	121624
<b>Inspection date</b>	03/12/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Helen Penticost
<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 has been registered since 1993. She lives with her husband and three school aged children in Dorking, Surrey. The whole of the ground floor of the property and one upstairs bedroom is used for childminding purposes and cloakroom facilities are available. The home is accessed by a front door step. Children have access to a fully secure garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. She walks to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. The childminder regularly attends toddler groups and walks and drives to local shops and parks. The family have pet cats, rabbits, guinea pigs and degus. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is a member of the Surrey Childminding Association.

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

The childminder provides a welcoming, safe environment and there are successful partnerships with parents, which ensures that children receive good quality care and education. The childminder has a good capacity for self-evaluation and for planning improvements to the provision, she regularly attends training to develop her knowledge and understanding, and effectively identifies areas for further development. She offers an inclusive service and plans her day according to children's routines. The childminder effectively plans frequent opportunities for the children to socialise with their peers and to have healthy choices in their diet.

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

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

- continue to develop the system for observation, assessment and planning, to enable children to move onto their next stage in their learning

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

The childminder is an experienced carer and she offers a child centred environment that is planned well. All areas, equipment, toys and resources are effectively presented and are easily accessible for all children. The childminder successfully reviews the effectiveness of her practice through the evaluation and assessment of risks. The childminder has a good understanding of how to protect the children in her care, she has an up-to-date understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and knows how to record and report any concerns. The childminder is fully aware of the relevant checks that need to be carried out to ensure that adult members of the household are appropriately vetted.

The childminder provides parents with a good amount of written and verbal

information regarding the children's care and learning, for example, observations alongside photographs are regularly shared. The childminder has effective procedures in place to support children's health and she maintains an up-to-date first aid certificate. In addition, children's good health and well-being is promoted well by the childminder's good practice; for example, when they are ill or have accidents. The childminder shows a commitment to developing her knowledge of early years practice to ensure that her skills remain consistently updated through the attendance of available training courses.

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

The childminder clearly identifies areas where she can further develop the good service that she provides. For example, she is currently developing a system for observation, assessment and planning for children's future learning. The childminder provides activities and experiences based upon children's interests and stage of development. The environment is organised effectively to ensure children have space to play, relax and eat. Children enjoy playing with a range of sensory equipment. For example, they explore fibre optic toys with a sense of wonder and delight. The children concentrate for a long period of time as they play with animals and rice in the sand tray. The childminder skilfully interacts with the children to enable all their individual needs to be met and for them to be able to play together harmoniously. Warm relationships are evident; children are often cuddled and the childminder sits with the children at their level supporting their learning. Children respond well to the childminder's realistic expectations for behaviour and they behave well. There are many photographs to show that children have regular outings and undertake activities out of doors.

The childminder has established policies and procedures, which are updated regularly to ensure that her record keeping is in line with the latest guidance and these are given to parents. She maintains the premises so it provides a safe place for children to play and written risk assessments are conducted and there are emergency procedures in place. Promoting children's good health is a priority for the childminder. She provides fresh home cooked food ensuring that all meals and snacks are healthy. Children's dietary needs are met and children are given choices of what they would like to eat. Parents contribute to the childminder's evaluation and they are extremely satisfied with the care the childminder provides, they comment that she is professional, reliable and extremely kind.

## 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?	2
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:	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.