

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	223342
<b>Inspection date</b>	15/01/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Josephine Mary Hammick
<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 1999 and works with an assistant. She lives with her husband and three children aged 18, 15 and ten years. They live in suburb of the city of Hereford. Minded children have access to the whole of the property. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play. Access is on level ground with downstairs cloakroom facilities. Children are also taken on visits and outings.

The childminder is registered to care for six children at any one time on the Early Years, compulsory and voluntary Childcare Registers. She currently has five children on roll in the early years age range.

The childminder cares for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and is a member of the National Childminding Association(NCMA).

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

Children play happily and flourish in this effective childminding setting. The childminder includes all children, and within the routine inclusive practice of her provision encourages children's understanding of the wider world. All children make steady progress and are warmly welcomed into the family. Their individual needs are successfully met. The childminder works with commitment and motivation to provide a quality service. She makes good use of self-evaluation to develop her practice.

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

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

- ensure records of children's development and progress are shared with other professionals (Organisation).

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

- carry out a full risk assessment on all type of outing and review the assessment before each type of outing. (Safeguarding and Welfare).

31/01/2009

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

Written policies and procedures guide the childminder in her daily practice and her record keeping is well maintained. The provision is effectively organised so that children can develop their independence and they make very good progress. The childminder keeps up-to-date with current legislation to ensure she has the most

current knowledge for the benefit of the children in her care. She uses self-evaluation effectively to identify her strengths and address any areas for development. She works hard to maintain high standards of care and learning, that take account of children's individual experiences at home. However, she has not made professional links with any other provision with which the children access with to ensure consistency of care.

The childminder develops good partnerships with parents and carers. She provides useful information about the care on offer. For example, there is a detailed information pack for parents when their children first start and regular newsletters informing parents of any up and coming noteworthy dates, activities or events to be enjoyed. Parents are encouraged to share what they know about their children before minding starts and throughout the children's time with the childminder. Parents have free access to their children's learning diaries. The childminder carries out regular observations, which she evaluates, to ensure children make steady progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

The childminder takes action to ensure the children's safety in the home. She has carried out, and recorded, a comprehensive risk assessment and carries out daily safety checks around the home before children arrive each day. However, she has not carried out any risk assessment for trips or routine outings to minimise risk to ensure consistency outside the home. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and knows the local safeguarding procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care.

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

Children learn effectively in this supportive environment. The childminder takes time to play enthusiastically with the children and she reinforces their language skills very effectively by extending their vocabulary. Children enjoy a wide range of activities that cover all six areas of learning such as imaginative development, by dressing up, using the wooden airport or dolls house; creative development by gluing, painting and collage, to knowledge and understanding of the world by cooking eggs in various ways following an extensive conversation about eggs and where they come from. The childminder uses lots of praise and encouragement to develop children's self-esteem.

Children help themselves to a good range of resources that are stored for easy access on open shelving in the integral garage. They benefit from interesting outings to local facilities such as the local garden centre to look at tropical fish, or an impromptu play in the snow that to enhance their learning experiences. Effective observations and assessments assist the childminder when she is thinking about suitable individual activities for the children. The youngest children play happily with the older ones and the childminder offers a fully inclusive provision where all children's individual needs are met. Children learn to acknowledge the needs of others, they know how to share and take turns. Parents are kept informed of children's activities and progress through regular newsletters, the excellent daily diary, to which they freely contribute by adding comments, and their children's learning files.

Clear fire evacuation procedures are in place and fire exits are clear to assist children when they are learning how to keep themselves safe. Children know to adhere to the house rules and this contributes to their safety. Children's safety and welfare is further assured by clear and thorough records being maintained. For example, permission to administer medicines or to seek treatment in the event of an emergency.

All children are welcomed into this provision and the childminder is proactive in ensuring children's individual needs are fully met. Children bring in their own packed lunch containing a good balance of nutritious foods. The childminder provides snacks which the children help to prepare themselves. Children discuss how "fruit makes you healthy, so that you can run and jump and then you grow big and strong". Children wash their hands whenever necessary and they learn good hygiene practices throughout the daily routine.

The childminder employs suitable strategies that take account of children's ages and stages of development to manage unwanted behaviour. Children play and learn happily. The childminder clearly enjoys her role and this is reflected in the quality of her provision.

## 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>	1
<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?	1
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 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.