

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY217880
<b>Inspection date</b>	08/01/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Lisa Paisley
<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 2002. She lives with her husband and three children aged 12, 11 and eight years in Southend-on-Sea, Essex. All areas of the childminder's house are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. Access to the childminder's home is via a small step at the front door.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding one child under five all day that is within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register and is currently looking after three children before and after school and on occasions during the school holidays. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The family has a rabbit and hamster as pets.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

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

Children's individual needs are met to a good standard as the childminder has an effective and clear understanding of the uniqueness of each child in her care. Children's welfare is successfully promoted and all children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder is professional and effective in her role and she takes appropriate action to ensure that she improves outcomes for children. The childminder had good relationships with both parents and other professionals involved in the child's care ensuring continuity is successfully promoted.

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

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

- further develop activity planning and assessment procedures
- develop self-evaluation systems to ensure continuous improvement is maintained.

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

The very good range of documentation, including policies and procedures are comprehensive and are effectively completed to ensure children's individual needs are met to a good standard and they are fully safeguarded. The childminder works hard to ensure children's welfare is paramount while in her care. She takes appropriate action to further extend her professional development, for example, completing all elements of the childminder training and updating her first aid certificate. Informal self-evaluation systems are in place, however, further

development is required to ensure continuous improvement is maintained.

The children have a designated play room, which is conformable. Space and resources are well organised to provide children with a good range of interesting and enjoyable play experiences and activities. The planning of play and learning routines provide children with good opportunities to explore within small groups and on an individual basis at their own time and pace, ensuring consolidation and extension to their learning is achieved. Secure and effective relationships with all parents have been successfully established as the childminder ensures all parents are fully informed about all aspects of their child's care.

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

Children receive good quality care, learning and play experiences. Effective arrangements are in place prior to children starting at the childminders, ensuring that the transition from home is smooth and successful for all children. The childminder successfully creates an effective play and learning environment where good behaviour is valued and inclusion is effectively promoted. Children are well-behaved and enjoy good relationships with the childminder and other family members. Children are fully safeguarded as wide ranging procedures such as written risk assessments, lost and uncollected child policies are in place, as a result, all potential risks have been minimised and all children are safe and secure. Older children attending the provision are confident, settled and secure within the home, they have lots of opportunity to self-select activities and they are positive role models for the younger children.

The childminder has a clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, early childhood development and how children play and learn. Activity plans are in place, allowing the childminder to provide a range of activities that capture children's interests and extend their learning. However, planning including assessment records require updating to ensure all areas of children's learning are successfully covered and next steps in their learning have been identified.

All children are happy, contented and secure within the home, they settle into the environment and activities quickly as they have good relationships with the childminder. Children's personal, social and emotional development is well promoted as the childminder successfully promotes an extended family environment for all children attending. Daily routines, play experiences and planned outings, for example, the Local Park, beach and Marsh Farm further extending children's social skills and confidence. All the children particularly enjoy crabbing at the beach where they spend hours exploring the natural sea life. There are additional outings planned further a field. This includes train rides to London, visiting Tate modern and outings to Colchester Zoo. Children's appreciation of books and stories are developed from an early age, as the childminder focuses on children's speech and communication skills. Their experiences of problem solving, reasoning and numeracy are promoted through daily routines and planned focussed activities such as number rhymes and individual number work. There are good opportunities for children to participate in creative activities, these include weaving, making necklaces, lantern fans and dragons for Chinese New Year, also

making bonnets and egg painting at Easter and a snowman. Children have regular daily opportunities to develop their physical skills as they have daily access to the garden area and there are regular trips out to the local park. There is also a good range of play equipment in the garden, these include a trampoline, balls, pogo sticks and a sand pit.

## 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?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	1

### 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?	1
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 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.