

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	138882
<b>Inspection date</b>	05/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Susan Elizabeth Tovey
<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 1999. She lives with her husband and two children aged 10 and 13 years in Hillingdon, in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The whole house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time and is currently minding four children in the early years age group. The childminder walks or drives to local schools to take and collect children.

The childminder is a member of a quality assurance scheme and has an NVQ Level 3 qualification. She is also a member of the 'Hillingdon Buddy Scheme' which supports new childminders. The family has a cat and two budgerigars as pets.

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

Overall, the quality of the provision is outstanding. Children are cared for in an extremely welcoming and child centred environment which ensures that children are secure and happy. Children are making excellent progress and their confidence and self-esteem flourish due to the encouragement and support of the childminder. She works closely with parents to ensure that she can fully identify and meet the unique needs of each child. The childminder continuously improves the service she provides to ensure it is of the highest standard.

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

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- continuing to develop methods for gaining more detailed information regarding children's starting points.

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

Children benefit from the childminder's years of experience and the extensive training she has undertaken. She has highly effective organisational skills and promotes children's welfare by keeping accurate records and implementing a wide variety of regularly reviewed policies and procedures. The childminder makes regular and comprehensive risk assessments of her premises, as well as making daily visual checks, to ensure that children can play safely. She has an excellent understanding of child protection issues and knows the possible indicators of abuse and the procedures to follow in the event of concerns about a child. The childminder closely monitors her provision and invites feedback from children and

parents to help her do so. She demonstrates her ability to improve as she has fully addressed the recommendation made at the last inspection. The childminder is committed to constantly making ongoing evaluations to help her identify areas for further development that will improve the quality of the care and education provided. She is extremely enthusiastic and spends time researching relevant information to support the children she cares for.

Children benefit from an excellent working relationship between the childminder and the parents. The childminder ensures that she keeps parents well-informed through discussion, written daily diaries and regular personalised newsletter. She also keeps them up to date by showing them their children's individual records of achievement. As a result, parents' feedback is unreservedly positive about the quality of her care and they value the childminder's advice. The childminder has established links with the local school and groups, and communicates effectively with others to support children's individual needs.

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

The childminder fully recognises that every child is unique. She is highly skilled in creating a stimulating environment and offering appropriate levels of support, which allows children to be confident and competent learners. They benefit from her energetic, welcoming and friendly approach. Children focus well on their chosen activities, for example, younger children enjoy time exploring the basket of push button and musical toys, giggling with delight at the sounds they made, whilst sitting alongside the older children busy constructing towers and tunnels for the train track with giant soft material bricks. The older children then move outside to skilfully manoeuvre the car around the patio and play in the playhouse. The childminder's thorough understanding of child development and the Early Years Foundation Stage enables her to make comprehensive observations of children's progress and link these to the different areas of learning. She uses her assessments to plan for each child's next steps to ensure that they continue to make excellent progress. Although, she already has an extremely good knowledge of each child's learning needs, the childminder has identified gaining more detailed information regarding children's starting points as an area she can further develop. The childminder is very flexible and adapts her planned activities according to children's interest, mood and outside influences, such as the weather, offering opportunities to playing in the snow or splash in puddles.

The childminder actively encourages children to develop independence skills and to solve problems for themselves, such as counting the number of bricks to make the highest tower and matching the number on the train engines. She fosters their developing communication skills by chatting with them all the time and supporting them as they find out that print carries meaning. Children enjoy sitting together with the childminder for stories or just to look at their favourite books. Children participate in an exciting range of activities outside the home. They explore their local community, attend activity groups, visit the library and have daily opportunities for physical activity which promotes a positive attitude to exercise and healthy living.

Children's safety is paramount. The childminder ensures that her house and garden provide a safe and secure environment for children and is helping them to develop an excellent understanding of safety issues. They regularly practise the fire drill, the 'Green Cross Code' and have an awareness of stranger danger. Children's health and hygiene are promoted highly effectively. They have healthy snacks and drinks and discuss which foods are good for you. They have an excellent understanding of the importance of washing their hands before eating and after playing in the garden. Children's behaviour is exemplary as they are encouraged to respect each other. The childminder is a very positive role model and enables children to feel good about themselves by her caring, supportive and encouraging approach.

## 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>	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
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>	1
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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.