

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	131342
<b>Inspection date</b>	12/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Alison Large
<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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 in the Woolston area of Southampton. All areas of the property are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The ground floor is easily accessible to adults and children. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. She is currently minding four children in the early years age group all day and six older children before and after school. The childminder is able to walk to the local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. The family have a pet cockatiel, a budgerigar and rabbits. The childminder attends various groups on a regular basis and is a member of the National Childminding Association and the Southampton Childminding Association. She is a member of an approved childminding network.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder offers children and parents a warm and welcoming environment, and has a good understanding of every child's individual needs. This ensures that children's welfare and learning are successfully promoted and that children feel safe and settled. All children are welcomed and are equally valued and included. The childminder is committed to continual improvement in the setting and is aware of areas to develop. Children enjoy a range of learning experiences both inside and outside the home, which means they are able to enjoy a worthwhile experience of the Early Years Foundation Stage and make good progress.

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

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

- continue to develop systems of observation, assessment and planning to fully support children's learning and development

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

The childminder is proactive in keeping her skills updated, which benefits the children she cares for. She provides children with a warm and welcoming environment, where they feel safe and secure and their emotional well-being is promoted. The childminder has a comprehensive range of policies and procedures in place to protect the children, and she carries out thorough risk assessments throughout the home and also for outings. The childminder supervises children at all times and has systems in place to ensure that children are appropriately

safeguarded. The childminder has an excellent partnership with parents and has a good knowledge of the children in her care. A variety of information is shared with parents including policies and procedures and the children's routines and achievements. The childminder is aware of the strengths of her provision, and has developed systems for monitoring and evaluating her practice to ensure that any areas for improvement are identified. The childminder has fully implemented the recommendations from her last inspection.

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

The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of how children learn, by providing a well organised and stimulating environment to support them in making their own choices. Young children make good progress in the areas of learning and development, and enjoy a range of activities, both in the home and on outings. They regularly attend various groups or go for walks to the park or local play areas. They access the outdoors in all weathers, which means they have regular fresh air and exercise. The childminder has a very good understanding of child development. Assessments and planning are being developed and are linked to the areas of learning, so the childminder is able to identify the next steps for individual children. This has been accurately identified by the childminder as an area she can further develop, although, the children are provided with an interesting environment and activities, which challenge and extend their learning. The childminder is committed to providing the best quality care and education for all children. They take part in some planned activities and also have many opportunities to initiate their own play.

Children learn about keeping healthy as they talk about healthy eating and why they need to wash their hands after using the toilet. The childminder talks to parents about their children's health and dietary needs, their likes and dislikes and any particular needs when their children first start. They are kept well informed of their children's daily routines and they are pleased with the care and learning provided. Children play and learn in a very safe and secure environment, where they are protected by the use of a range of equipment, such as safety gates and door and window locks. Healthy meals and snacks are provided in accordance with the parents' wishes and drinks are readily available. All children are welcomed into the setting and learn to share, take turns and to value each other. Younger children are secure and settled and developing a sense of belonging. Children are well behaved and happy to share with others. They enjoy the many activities provided and talk excitedly with the childminder when reading a book, playing with the puzzles, or when talking to the pet cockatiel, who answers them.

## 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?	1
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>	1
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?	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>	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?	1
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.