

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	139707
<b>Inspection date</b>	25/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Lindsay Ann Farenden
<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 brother in Worcester Park, Surrey. She lives in a house where access is up several steps. The ground floor is used for childminding and consists of a lounge, a dining room which serves as the main play room and a kitchen. The bathroom and one bedroom on the first floor are also used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder has a pet Dalmatian dog.

The childminder is registered to provide care for six children under the age of eight years. There are currently five children on roll in the early years age group. The childminder is registered on the following registers: the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children enjoy their play in a secure environment in which most aspects of their welfare are met. They benefit from a balanced daily routine which provides times for meals, rest, play and outings. The childminder values each child as an individual. Communication with parents keeps them informed about their child's care and developmental progress. Some steps of improvement have been acknowledged by the childminder, although self-evaluation of the provision is not yet fully established.

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

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

- continue to increase knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and further develop systems in regard to planning, assessing and evaluating activities to support children's development towards the early learning goals

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

- keep a record of risk assessments in the home and for individual outings, clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, the date of review and any action taken (Documentation) 18/03/2009
- request prior parental permission to seek any necessary medical advice or treatment (Documentation) 18/03/2009
- inform Ofsted of any change of persons aged 16 years or over living in the home, so suitability checks can be instigated as soon as possible (Suitability of adults) 23/03/2009

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

Children are settled in the childminding environment in which the childminder is kind and caring towards them. The childminder knows the children well and to improve children's experiences the childminder regularly updates her toys. She has some familiarity of the Early Years Foundation Stage, although has not yet fully devised systems to evaluate and assess what she knows about each child's abilities to plan for their next stage of learning. The childminder has identified her record keeping and documentation as an area for improvement. The majority of records are in place and maintained to an appropriate standard, but all required parental consents have not been sought for each child and Ofsted has not been informed of recent changes of persons living on the childminding premises.

Children enjoy their play in a safe environment because the childminder has taken action to ensure any hazards are inaccessible to children. On outings the risks to children are reduced because the childminder ensures children are strapped in the buggy, wear reins and are taught about road safety. However, she does not keep a record of the risk assessment in the home and for outings, which is a breach of the requirements.

The childminder has developed a good partnership with parents. When children first start the childminder obtains information about what they know about their child, so their child's individual needs and routines are met. Regular verbal feedback to the parents keeps them informed about their child's day and developmental progress.

Children are beginning to be aware others and to appreciate differences through discussions with the childminder, such as why some people are in wheelchairs and through a range of books and resources which reflect diversity. Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder has a very sound knowledge of the signs and categories of abuse and is aware of what to do if has concerns about a child. Although she does not have the booklet 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused'.

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

Children play happily and contentedly as they independently make choices from a wide range of toys, suitable for their age and stage of development. Children's enjoyment is enhanced by the childminder's interaction and interest in their play. She uses these opportunities to help children learn, by counting with them and talking to them about colours. They like building towers and use their imaginations well on first hand experiences as they pretend to make cups of tea. Children enjoy opportunities to develop their problem solving skills through the use of puzzles and various shape sorters. The singing of nursery rhymes helps children to learn numbers and the sequence of them. Children visit the library where they gain an interest in books and enjoy story time. A good range of play equipment in the garden in the summer time and visits to parks develop children's climbing and balancing skills. Children's sense of the world around them is promoted very well

through regular outings to children's facilities and bus and train rides. The childminder takes children to the local toddler group where they learn to mix with other children and access art activities and a further range of play resources. The childminder has started to observe children enjoying their play, but there are no systems in place yet to evaluate or track each child's individual learning and progress. The childminder's friendly and calm approach results in children having high levels of self-esteem and behaving well. They are encouraged to share toys. Suitable furniture is in place to support children's care needs, such as a high chair, travel cot and buggies.

Children play in a clean home in which systems are in place to minimise the risk of cross infection. For example, children's hands are washed before meals, suitable nappy changing procedures take place and when children are unwell they do not attend the provision. The childminder is able to attend to minor injuries because she has a fully stocked first aid box and holds a current first aid certificate. Any accidents are recorded and shared with parents. However, written parental consent for the childminder to seek any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment has not been obtained. The smoke alarms are in working order and there is a fire blanket in the kitchen. Although fire drills are not practised, the childminder explains to older children how to evacuate the home in the event of a fire.

Parents provide children's meals which are stored and heated appropriately. The childminder finds out children's specific dietary requirements and allergies, so any foods she does provide do not have an adverse effect on them. She demonstrated through discussion that if she did provide meals they would be healthy and nutritious. Drinking water is easily accessible to older children and regularly offered to the younger ones.

## 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>	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	3
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?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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.