

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	111716
<b>Inspection date</b>	17/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Alison Jane Kaplonek
<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 to care for children since 1989. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder lives with her husband and their two adult children in a bungalow in the Olivers Battery area of Winchester, which is close to local schools and shops. All areas of the property are registered for childminding and access to the premises is good. Toilet facilities are easily accessible. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play. The family have two cats and a tortoise.

The childminder is registered to provide care for 6 children under the age of eight. There are currently 16 children on roll who attend part time. Five of these children are in the early years age range. The childminder has excellent links with parents and other settings.

The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification and is a member of the National Childminding Association. She is part of the Hampshire cluster network and also part of the Hampshire scheme offering support to new childminders.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding. The childminder's substantial knowledge of every child's individual needs, ensures that all aspects of their welfare and learning are extraordinarily well met. Children are welcomed into a warm and comfortable environment where they are all equally valued and included. Children are safe, happy and extremely well settled. They enjoy an inspiring range of stimulating learning experiences both inside the home and when visiting local amenities. Excellent links with parents, the local network coordinator, and other agencies enables every child's needs to be successfully supported. The childminder accurately identifies the strengths of her provision and makes continual improvements to her already extremely good practice.

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

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

- ensure that all activities to encourage children to mark make or form letters and numbers are appropriate for their age and stage of development.

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

The professional and successful organisation of the childminding service ensures that all outcomes for children are consistently promoted. A comprehensive range

of policies and procedures and the maintenance of consistently accurate records ensures that every child's individual needs are extremely well met. The childminder has an excellent understanding of procedures to safeguard children. She ensures that family members are suitably vetted and that children are always closely supervised by an appropriate adult. The childminder is very well qualified and ensures that her training is continually up dated. She carries out thorough self-evaluation and successfully identifies areas for future development.

The childminder is proactive in her approach to working with parents, other providers and professionals to ensure that the setting provides high quality welfare and learning for every child. She welcomes all children into the setting and ensures that their health, safety and well-being are given a high priority. She regularly carries out risk assessments on the premises, toys and outings and ensures that fire drills are practised with all children. The childminder is committed to providing high quality care and education for all children and works hard to ensure that her practice continues to develop.

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

All children make excellent progress in every area of learning. An interesting and very well resourced learning environment enables children to make choices and influence their own learning. Children take part in some planned activities and also have many opportunities to initiate their own play or follow their own interests. They confidently select resources themselves or request particular activities, such as listening to a story or completing a game of picture lotto. A considerable range of stimulating and exciting activities are planned and adapted depending on the ages of the children present, enabling all children to take part. For example, babies, toddlers and older children enjoy exploring the play dough together, gaining new skills or learning new words at their own developmental level. Regular and accurate observations and assessments are made by the childminder and used to ensure that children are consistently moving to the next steps in their learning and development.

The childminder has an excellent working knowledge and understanding of how children learn and ensures that all children are fully supported. She frequently takes children to visit the local area where they meet and interact with other children and adults of all ages. Children very much enjoy their time with the childminder and are interested and involved in the wide range of activities. They talk excitedly to each other and the childminder as they act out the story of the 'Owl Babies' and get very involved as they use the props provided in the story sack. They count frequently and are encouraged to recall learning, such as how many lamp posts they walked past on their way back from school. Older children are able to write their names and some numbers, as they complete work books, although this is not always appropriate for their age and stage of development.

Children learn about keeping healthy as they talk about washing their hands before eating. They enjoy an interesting range of healthy snacks and are encouraged to try new foods. They talk about which foods will boost their vitamin C levels and how that will help to protect them from getting colds. Children learn to keep

themselves safe as they talk about road safety as they walk home from school or practise the fire evacuation drill. Children's behaviour is extremely good. They are very polite and kind to each other, often sharing toys or helping to tidy up. They are articulate, confident and delight in their time spent with the childminder, with whom they form secure attachments.

Parents are extremely well informed about their children's learning and development, via daily feedback sheets, scrapbooks and verbal feedback each day. Notice boards supply them with additional information about the setting and their children's routines. Children enjoy choosing photographs of things they have done to put in an album, which they can then share with their parents or friends. Parents are continually consulted about their children's needs and interests. They are invited to complete questionnaires with their children about the setting and any improvements they would like to see.

## 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.