

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY285863
<b>Inspection date</b>	24/08/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Linda Patricia Coccia
<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 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 2004. She lives with her husband and two children aged 13 years and seven years in Margate, Kent. The ground floor of the childminder's house and an upstairs toilet is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. There are steps to the front door to access the premises.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children aged under eight years at any one time. At times she may work with her husband as an assistant. She is able to care for up to three children in the early years age range. She is also registered on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is currently minding three children between the ages of two years and six years, one of whom falls within the early years age range but who was not present at the inspection. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the local parent/toddler group and local childminding groups. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

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

Overall, the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder is effective in meeting the needs of the children as she collects a suitable range of information on them to enable her to get to know them well. She promotes equality of opportunity through the good range of toys and activities provided for the children. She has maintained continuous improvement through the regular reviews of her paperwork and the increase in the range of toys made available for the children.

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

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

- continue to develop the children's observational record

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

The childminder manages her provision in a satisfactory manner. She has a suitable understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and has recently attended a local authority child protection course. She ensures that her assistant knows the children well and is fully involved in keeping the records for children. All adults in the household have been vetted. However, although the childminder advises parents of Ofsted's telephone number for complaints she does not have a written complaints procedure which is necessary for her to meet the General Welfare Requirements.

The childminder has completed suitable evaluation of her service with the input

from other childminders, parents and children. She has identified some areas for improvement within her paperwork and she plans to continue to increase the range of toys available as individual children's needs become apparent. She has a good working in partnership relationship with parents. They are advised daily of their children's achievements and have access to their children's development records whenever they want. She has some good references from previous parents which detail the care she has given to children.

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

Children have access to a wide range of activities at the childminder's home. They can use a variety of suitable physical play equipment in the garden, from a large trampoline to the usual bats and balls. They play board games with the childminder which helps to increase their interpersonal skills of sharing and taking turns. They regularly visit the local Sure Start centre to utilise the music sessions and craft sessions and learn to interact with their peers. The childminder ensures that children become proficient with letter and number recognition as she uses play flash cards with them. They also get involved in a wide variety of cultural festivals which helps their understanding of the range of different people that they associate with. To further increase their understanding the childminder has obtained a number of dolls depicting wheelchair users and blind people. The childminder has some good written observational records on children which clearly show initial assessments, observations with photographic evidence, children's next steps and elements of planning to aid children's development.

The childminder promotes children's welfare in a satisfactory manner. Her procedures encourage children to eat healthily and have a healthy lifestyle. Drinking water is available throughout the day including when the children are off the premises with the childminder. Healthy snacks are made available but the childminder also indulges children with the occasional biscuit or packet of crisps. The children regularly practice the childminder's emergency evacuation procedures to ensure they can keep themselves safe in an emergency. The smoke detectors are regularly checked by the fire officer and there is a fire blanket situated in the kitchen. However, although the childminder checks the premises each day for hazards, she has not produced a written risk assessment which is necessary for her to meet the General Welfare Requirements. Overall, the children have an enjoyable time with the childminder. They enjoy her company, know her family well and are able to choose their own activities from the selection available.

## 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?	2
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?	4

### 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>	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
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?	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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) (Also applies to the Early Years Register and the voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

07/09/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- conduct periodic written risk assessments of the premises and equipment to minimise hazards to children (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) (Also applies to the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register)

07/09/2009