

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	121518
<b>Inspection date</b>	03/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	June Fielden
<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 1993. She lives in Horley, Surrey, close to shops, parks and schools. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There are fully enclosed areas of the childminder's garden which are used for outdoor play. The childminder has a dog and a cat as pets.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding one child in this age group. This provision is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register, and the childminder offers care for children aged up to eight years.

The childminder collects children from the local school and attends several toddler groups.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. Although the childminder appropriately promotes children's learning and development, she does not meet all of their welfare needs. As a result, there are breaches of specific welfare requirements relating to Safeguarding, Suitable people and Documentation that impact on children's wellbeing and affect her partnership with parents. The childminder creates a welcoming atmosphere for children and is aware of her main strengths, but has not effectively identified the areas in which improvement is required. The childminder appropriately raises children's awareness of the world around them and liaises with others involved in children's care.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

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

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- keep a record of the risk assessment of the setting, clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review, and any action taken following a review or incident (including outdoor and indoor spaces) (Documentation) 31/03/2009
- complete an appropriate paediatric first aid course (Suitable People) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 31/05/2009
- provide parents with details for contacting Ofsted and an explanation that they can make a complaint to 31/03/2009

Ofsted should they wish, and develop knowledge and understanding of the procedure for investigating complaints, as required by the EYFS (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to improve knowledge and understanding of the Learning and Development Requirements of the EYFS and use this to further develop systems for planning, observing and assessing children

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

The childminder informs parents about the activities children have been engaged in and their achievements while with her. She is always available to speak to parents at the start and end of the day. However, parents are not effectively informed about the childminder's complaints procedure, as she has not fully developed her understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements relating to this. Also, she has not provided them with Ofsted's contact details or explained to them that they can make a complaint to Ofsted should they wish to do so. The childminder has an appropriate understanding of how to record and report any safeguarding concerns relating to minded children.

The childminder does not have all the necessary records, procedures and qualifications in place to ensure that she organises her practice effectively in order to meet children's needs. Children's records are stored securely, and the childminder appropriately records their times of arrival and departure each day. She has begun to evaluate her main strengths. These include the childminder's ability to ensure that children have fun during activities, the provision of clear routines and guidelines, and the friendly way in which she treats them. However, she has not recognised the areas where action is required in order to develop her practice. Also, she has not taken steps to rectify the weakness identified in her last report, which relates to making parents aware of how to contact Ofsted in order to keep them well informed.

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

Children's meals are mainly provided by parents and are stored appropriately by the childminder. The breakfasts and snacks offered by the childminder include healthy options, and water is available to children at all times, to ensure they are not thirsty. However, the childminder has not maintained a current first aid certificate, as required by the EYFS. This means that she has not updated her knowledge in this area, and this affects children's welfare in the event of an accident. The childminder appropriately raises children's awareness of the dangers from traffic when they are on outings, and has a stair gate in place to ensure that children are unable to access the first floor of her home unaccompanied. However, she does not keep a record of the risk assessment of her premises in the manner required by the EYFS, and it is not reviewed regularly to take account of hazards

as they arise. In the garden these include fencing that is not secure, some broken equipment that has not been removed, and some tools that are accessible to children, which make the garden unsafe. The childminder uses sound strategies to appropriately maintain children's behaviour, rewarding them with praise and reasoning with them when they misbehave. She encourages children to take turns when playing games, and enables them to feel that they have resolved any problems for themselves. The childminder makes children aware of other cultures and talks to them about the different places she has visited on holiday.

Children are offered an appropriate range of activities to enable them to make sound progress in their learning and development, and are provided with a suitable mix of adult led and child initiated activities. Although the childminder has not yet fully developed her understanding of the learning and development requirements of the EYFS, the activities offered cover all areas of learning. She has also started to plan, observe and assess children's next steps, in order to assist them in making progress. The childminder finds out about children's starting points through her initial discussions with parents, and by playing with the children. She speaks to children's teachers when they start school, to find out what they have been doing during the day, in order to make links with the activities she engages them in. The childminder raises children's awareness of living things by growing plants with them, and speaking to them about the fish she keeps. Children talk freely to the childminder. She asks them questions and gets them to explain things to her, developing their language skills. The childminder gets children to count during the games she plays with them, such as the number of objects on the picture cards they are using, and talks to them about the size of the items they are looking at. Children are taken on walks to enable them to exercise, and to groups where they socialise with others.

## 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>	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	4
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>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	4
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:

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:

- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (Welfare of the children being cared for) 31/03/2009
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for Safeguarding children) 31/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitable people) 31/05/2009

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:

- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (Welfare of the children being cared for) 31/03/2009
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for Safeguarding children) 31/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitable people) 31/05/2009

## **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.