

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY382325
<b>Inspection date</b>	08/04/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Jan Healy
<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 registered in 2008. She is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory part of the Childcare Register and the voluntary part of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband and two adult children in Shepton Mallet, Somerset. The whole of the ground floor is used for minding, as well as a bedroom and bathroom on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed rear garden for outdoor play. She is registered for six children under eight at any one time. When an assistant is present, a maximum of six children under eight, with five children under five at any one time and a maximum of one under one at any one time. She walks to local parks and other facilities such as the mobile library. There is a drive for the benefit of the parents being able to drop off and collect the children in safety.

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

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. The children settle quickly upon arrival and as the childminder is a good role model and the children emulate her behaviour, there is a calm and harmonious atmosphere. All the needs of the children are routinely met and they are treated as individuals and are spoken to with respect. Each child receives the support they require to actively engage in all the play opportunities available, contributing to their happiness and contentment. The childminder keeps herself up-to-date about early years, through the attendance of training courses and workshops. She is extremely knowledgeable about working successfully with young children and has the capacity to maintain continuous improvement.

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

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

- further develop assessment and planning to clearly show identified steps for children's progress, which can then be measured against their achievements in relation to their starting points

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

The childminder is highly effective at managing her provision, ensuring the children receive a good standard of care and education, enabling them to make continuous progression. A successful method of self-evaluation contributes in the identification of the childminder's strengths, which she uses to the maximum. Any identified weaknesses are tackled swiftly and competently for the benefit of all, therefore, promoting consistent improvement. The childminder builds a strong rapport with the parents and carers who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage, with whom she shares a friendly and professional relationship. Records are retained and shared about the children's individual needs, which are updated regularly, resulting

in the children receiving the tailored care they require. There is a two-way flow of both verbal and written information shared by the childminder and the parents about the children's achievements and progress. In the event of a concern being noted, swift action is taken to prevent a delay in the children receiving the support they require.

The childminder is committed to safeguarding the children at all times. She is knowledgeable about child protection and about the procedure to follow in the event of having to raise a concern. The children are protected from adults who are not vetted and are suitably supervised at all times. A complaints procedure is clearly visible for the parents' perusal and good quality risk assessments ensure the children remain safe when indoors, playing in the garden and when on outings.

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

The childminder is well organised, therefore, the children are safe whilst in the care of the childminder, as she takes appropriate precautions to eliminate hazards both in the home and in the outdoor play area. The children are taught to keep themselves safe during play, for example, when riding wheeled toys, they learn about spatial awareness and not to bump into each other. The children are extremely active during their stay, taking part in a wide range of activities that benefit their health, such as climbing apparatus in the local park, contributing to the children's fitness and stamina. They adopt healthy habits, including the washing of their hands thoroughly before taking part in baking activities. They make choices about the foods they eat and are adept at distinguishing between healthy and unhealthy meals. Fresh drinking water is readily available, which the children access independently, to prevent them from becoming dehydrated.

The childminder has begun to record the children's stage of development upon attending her care. This helps in the planning of appropriate activities that are not only of interest to the children, but also aid their progression. Sensitive observations regularly take place, which the childminder is beginning to use to identify the children's improvement through assessments, to enable clear evidence of achievement in relation to the children's starting points. Opportunities are widely available for the children to take part in games with their friends, which aid their social skills and help to extend their vocabulary. They make dens using material and pretend to be characters of their choice. They participate in baking, for example hot cross buns; weighing and measuring the ingredients, which furthers their mathematical knowledge. They chat easily to each other and talk about the changes in the weather, using adjectives to describe the day. The reading of books is an enjoyable past time, with the children requesting the childminder to read stories to them. They go for walks around their local community, noticing various buildings and what they are used for, such as a post office, hairdressers and bank. They are learning about modern technology through the playing of electronic games and are learning about the wider world.

The children behave extremely well whilst in the care of the childminder, as they are happy to be in her company and they enjoy their stay. They have the benefit of accessing a broad range of toys and resources, which are stored within their

easy reach, enabling them to self-select items of their choice. This not only allows them the autonomy to make decisions for themselves, but to also plan for their chosen activity.

## 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?	2
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>	2
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?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

### 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?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
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?	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 registration.

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.