

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	251323
<b>Inspection date</b>	16/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Glenda Kathleen Field
<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 1998. She lives with her husband and adult son in premises situated in Oulton Broad, Suffolk. The whole of the premises apart from the lounge and third bedroom are used for childminding. A secure garden is available for outdoor play. There is level access to the provision. The family have two dogs as household pets.

The childminder may care for a maximum of five children aged under eight years at any one time. The childminder employs an assistant to work alongside her with the children. There are currently 21 children on roll of whom 16 are within the early years age group. The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. The childminder takes children for visits to the park, woods, beach and Norwich Airport.

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

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. The childminder and her assistant are fully aware of children's individual needs and these are considered when planning activities. An effective partnership with parents and carers assists the childminder in effectively meeting children's needs. Children are encouraged to learn about their local environment through visits made and are developing an understanding of diversity through topics and resources that reflect our multicultural society. Recommendations made at the last inspection have been implemented and the setting shows strong capacity to maintain improvement.

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

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

- develop further the use of observation and assessment to identify children's next steps in learning
- develop the use of reflective practice to identify the setting's strengths and priorities for improvement that will improve the quality of the provision for all children.

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

Children's welfare is safeguarded well because the childminder and her assistant are aware of their responsibility in this area. Written policies are in place and shared with parents which detail the appropriate procedures to follow with regard to child protection concerns, complaints, uncollected children and should a child be lost or missing. Written risk assessments of the premises and environment plus specific outings made are in place.

Effective partnerships are well-established with parents and information is shared

with them on a daily basis, both verbally and through daily diaries, with regard to children's welfare and the activities they have taken part in. Parents speak highly of the care and education provided by the provision commenting that children are taught the principles that are important. The childminder provides written information regarding routines and procedures which is discussed with parents on admission. All required written parental consents are obtained and are readily accessed by the childminder should they be needed in an emergency.

The childminder and her assistant ensure that training is regularly updated and that all adult members of the household are checked for suitability to be in contact with children. The childminder has not yet commenced the process of self-evaluation, therefore strengths and areas for improvement have not been identified. The actions set at the last inspection have been met.

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

Children are provided with activities and resources which are appropriate for their age and level of development. The childminder plans a variety of outings with minded children. For example, children visit the beach, local park and woods. Children's interests are taken into account when planning outings, for example, a child had a love of aeroplanes so the childminder arranged a visit for all the children to Norwich Airport. Children have free access to a wide selection of resources, which include building blocks, jigsaws, books, art and craft resources and role play equipment.

The childminder has recently started to carry out observations and assessments of the children to gain an understanding of their levels of development. Children's achievement records are made available to parents to add information and thus become involved in their children's learning. However, the childminder has not used these observations to identify children's next steps in their learning and to inform planning.

Children are encouraged to develop an understanding of keeping themselves safe and healthy during their time with the childminder. For example, young children learn to wash their hands and dry them on individual towels after visiting the toilet. Fresh fruit is offered regularly to children, and children sit together for the social occasions of snack and lunch times. Children are involved in regular fire drill practises which the childminder records. This helps children to develop an understanding of keeping themselves safe in an emergency. Daily checks of the childminder's home are carried out to ensure children are cared for in a safe environment and written risk assessments are in place for the childminder's home and any outings which children take part in.

Children's economic well-being is developed through a range of counting games and daily activities such as recognising numerals, letters and talking about everyday objects. Children learn about the local community through visits and discussions with the childminder. Some cultural festivals are celebrated which are reflective of the wider world, and resources which promote positive images of diversity are available for children to use in their daily play.

## 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?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
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 the last inspection that required Ofsted or the provider to take any action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

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.