

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	111161
<b>Inspection date</b>	14/04/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Lisa Ellis
<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 1993. She lives with her husband and her grown up son in a house in a residential area of Titchfield Common, Hampshire. All areas on the ground floor of the property are available for childminding and there are sleeping facilities on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. She currently provides part time care for four children in the early years age range and five older children.

The childminder has pet guinea pigs and fish and is a member of the National Childminding Association. She has a childcare qualification.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children benefit as the childminder knows them well as individuals. This enables her to plan developmentally appropriate activities that are of interest to them and helps them to make progress in their learning and development. The childminder has addressed the recommendations made at her last inspection and keeps up to date with her training as this helps her to maintain continuous improvements for the children in her care.

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

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

- further enhance partnership with parents by sharing observations and assessments made on the children's individual progress

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

The childminder has effective systems to self-evaluate her provision which ensures she is aware of her strengths and areas for development. She seeks the views of the children and the parents and uses information from them to strive for further improvements. Parents are provided with very detailed information about the provision from the outset. They are given a pack which contains information about the childminder as well as all her policies and procedures which are implemented in practice to aid the smooth running of the provision. Parents receive verbal and written feedback on a daily basis about what their children have been doing and how they have been. The childminder maintains detailed observations and assessments based on the children's learning and development although these are not yet fully shared with the parents. This is an area that the childminder has

highlighted for further improvement through her self-evaluation.

Children benefit as the childminder has established professional relationships with other early years settings that they attend, for example, local pre-schools. She has sought consent from parents to share information about the children's individual progress which helps identify where children may need additional support or can be challenged further in their learning and development.

Children are well safeguarded in the childminder's care as she ensures they are provided with a safe and secure environment where regular risk assessments are carried out to minimise hazards. Ratios are maintained at all times to promote children's safety and they are never left alone with unvetted people. The childminder has undertaken training to refresh her knowledge in the area of child protection and is clear of the procedures to follow should she have concerns regarding the welfare of individual children. All of the required paperwork is in place and is maintained to a high standard. It is stored confidentially and is shared with the parents as necessary to promote the welfare of the children.

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

All children are making good progress in all areas of their learning and development because the childminder has a very good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and how it is used to help children reach their full potential. She ensures that she is aware of children's starting points by observing them in their play and asking parents for information about what they can already do, as well as their likes and dislikes. She then plans activities to ensure children are provided with opportunities in all areas of learning. Children are relaxed and enjoy their time with the childminder as she provides them with a good balance of child initiated and adult led play. This enables them to make many choices in their play which increases their confidence and independence. Children play very well together in mixed age groups where the older children enjoy helping to teach the younger children and the younger children look up to the older children as positive role models. Their behaviour is good as the childminder has established clear house rules which are consistently applied to enable children to learn the behavioural boundaries.

Very high regard is given to the health and safety of the children with the childminder providing lots of hands on experiences for them in these areas. For example, they regularly practise safe evacuation and get involved in healthy eating by recording the fruit and vegetables that they consume on a healthy eating chart. Precautions have been taken to make the environment safe and the childminder is vigilant in her supervision of young children.

Children learn about the local environment and the wider world through a very good selection of resources that are stored accessibly and through outings to local parks and nearby attractions. Photographs show them enjoying building dens in the forest and observing animals and trees. They learn good skills for the future such as sharing and taking turns and greatly benefit from the interaction of the childminder who skilfully adapts her conversations to involve all children in

activities. For example, when an older child was assembling a track on the floor she spoke to him about how the pieces fitted together while talking to a very young child about the pictures she could see.

Children have many opportunities to be creative through activities such as arts and crafts and dressing up. They show good imaginations from an early age, for example, a young child enjoys pushing her doll around in a pram. Children are helped to learn simple numeracy and literacy skills which will help them in the future, for example by counting and practising their pencil control. They have free access to a good range of books and equipment which teaches them about diversity. The childminder regularly takes them to the park where they practise their developing gross motor skills and provides them with a good balance of activities in and out of the home. They have regular opportunities to interact with their peers, through visits to local toddler groups and by meeting up with other childminders.

## 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?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
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
---	-----

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

## **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.