

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY318996
<b>Inspection date</b>	02/04/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Brenda Joan Flewitt
<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 2005. She lives with her husband and three children aged 10, six and four years. The childminder's husband occasionally works with her as an assistant. The whole of the childminder's house is registered for childminding purposes. Childminding takes place mainly on the ground floor which includes a dedicated play room, lounge, kitchen, dining room and toilet facilities. Sleeping facilities are provided on the first floor. There is an enclosed rear garden available for outside play. The childminder and her husband are registered foster carers. The family have two cats, to which the children have supervised access.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of four children may attend at any one time. There are currently three children on roll in the early years age group. There are currently no children attending overnight. The childminder holds an NNEB qualification and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

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

Overall, the quality of the early years provision is good with some outstanding areas. Children are cared for in a welcoming, safe and well organised family environment. Ongoing communication with parents, together with good support for children's activities, ensures the childminder knows each child well and meets their individual needs effectively. Children are involved in a broad range of everyday experiences, both inside and out, that help them make good progress in their development. The childminder has some methods in place to help her evaluate her practice and maintains continuous improvement through training and research.

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

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

- develop the assessment system to clarify each child's next steps and plan further for their progress.

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

The childminder implements policies and procedures effectively to promote children's welfare and safety. She carries out comprehensive risk assessments to ensure that children move around freely in a safe environment, both in the home and on outings. The childminder has a secure working knowledge of safeguarding children which includes a very good understanding of how to recognise signs and symptoms of abuse, and confidence in the procedures to follow with concerns. All this means that children's safety is high priority and contributes to protecting them from harm. Children's medication and accidents are well managed. All required

records are well-organised and completed accurately.

The childminder promotes positive relationships with parents with a friendly, yet professional approach. Parents receive good information about the setting, which includes written policies, which they sign to agree. The childminder offers daily opportunities for sharing information verbally, which ensures babies' routines are respected and individual needs are met.

The childminder has some methods for self-evaluation which includes seeking parent's views about her practice. She keeps up-to-date with changes and develops her knowledge by accessing training such as 'Basic communication', 'Basic signing' and 'Framework of assessment'. She also seeks information online and through relevant early years publications. She has addressed the recommendation set at the last inspection, by providing paper towels for children to dry their hands, therefore, helping to prevent the spread of infection.

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

Children are happy, settled and secure. They enjoy the time they spend with their childminder, making good relationships with her, her family and each other. For example, a young child spontaneously gives another a kiss and calls them their friend. Children behave well. They learn what is expected through clear explanations and a consistent approach by the childminder. From an early age they are encouraged to display good manners and help pack away toys when they have finished with them. Children receive constant praise and encouragement for effort and achievement, which helps boost their confidence and self-esteem. Children participate in a broad range of activities, both adult-led and self-chosen, which encourage their learning and development. They can access a variety of toys and resources which are well-organised to encourage children to select for themselves, according to their age and stage of development. Toys are stored in transparent boxes which are labelled with words and pictures so that all children know what they can choose from. For example, a young child independently finds the box of cars to use on the road map they enjoy drawing with the childminder. They suggest ideas for the childminder to draw, talking about family and choosing coloured pencils to add their own marks to the paper.

The childminder offers sensitive support for children's activities which promotes their enjoyment and learning. She joins in their play, talking with them to encourage language, problem solving and an understanding of the world around them. They develop an awareness of number, shape and comparison through activities such as cooking, building bricks or looking at books. The childminder has started to record observations of children's play and achievements, in accordance with parents' wishes, linking them to the six areas of learning. However, the system is not clear how these are used to identify and plan each child's next steps.

Children's healthy lifestyle is promoted well. From a young age they learn good procedures for their personal hygiene, learning the routine and reasons for washing hands. They start to make healthy choices in what they eat through discussion and the good example set by the childminder. Children have daily

opportunities for fresh air and exercise in the form of garden play, walks and visits to play parks where they practise large muscle skills. Children's days include a good variety of visits outside the home where they meet a range of different people, use alternative equipment and explore the local environment. Children start to become aware of their own safety when they are out and about as they learn about crossing roads, how to use large equipment safely and the dangers of approaching unknown adults and animals. A favourite regular outing is to a music session where they sing and play instruments with other adults, and children of a similar age. This helps to promote children's positive attitude to the world around them.

## 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?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	1

### 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?	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.

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.