

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY318076
<b>Inspection date</b>	03/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Dinah Round
<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 to care for children in 2006. She lives with her husband and two children aged five and 10 years. They live on a residential estate in Corfe Mullen, in Dorset. The whole of the house is used for childminding. Children have access to a rear enclosed garden for outdoor play activities. 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 five children at any one time. There are currently five children in the early years age group on roll. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

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

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. The childminder knows children well and focuses on their individual interests, care and learning needs which helps them progress well in their learning. Children's welfare is generally supported well and they benefit from the effective partnerships that are established with parents and carers. The childminder attends regular training to update her knowledge and is pro-active in using her skills to continually develop her practice to enhance outcomes for children.

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

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

- ensure younger children are continually supervised at meal times
- continue to develop further the play opportunities and activities to link in with children's individual stage of development

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

The provision is well organised with all necessary records maintained to support children's safety and welfare. Clear policies and procedures are developed and shared with parents to promote consistency and keep them informed of the childminder's role. Comprehensive risk assessments are carried out for the premises, activities and any outings to make sure any potential risks to children are successfully identified and minimised. However, on occasions, younger children are not continually supervised when feeding themselves at lunch time.

The childminder is pro-active in accessing training and workshop opportunities to help her develop her own skills, such as practical inclusion and observation, assessment and planning courses. She puts the ideas into practice to benefit the children that she cares for. The childminder has a positive attitude to the on-going development of her provision continuing to evaluate how she can improve the outcomes for children. She has a secure understanding of safeguarding issues, the procedures to follow and who to contact in the event of a concern.

The childminder develops good relationships with parents and carers. She liaises closely with parents through informal daily discussion and use of home-link diaries, to ensure information about children's individual needs is effectively exchanged. Parents and children receive reassurance from the childminder which helps children to settle quickly. Good links have been developed with other early years settings children attend which contributes towards the continuity of care and learning for children. Individual learning journals are maintained to record each child's progress and are made available to parents to keep them informed about their child's achievements.

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

Children are happy and secure in the welcoming family home environment. The childminder knows children well and devotes her time to supporting their needs. She identifies when children are less confident and provides additional reassurance to help them settle. Children's independence is fostered well as they freely access resources and make their own choices about their play. For example, children happily choose a book and enjoy cuddling up with the childminder to look at the pictures. The childminder uses effective questioning to help develop children's language and thinking skills. Children have regular opportunities to take part in creative activities which include baking, drawing, painting and collage activities. Their individual work is highly valued and displayed for all to see which helps promote children's confidence and self-esteem. Children benefit from the regular praise and encouragement they receive from the childminder.

The childminder has implemented effective systems for recording observations of children's progress which she uses to help plan the next steps in each child's learning. Children are provided with a wide range of interesting activities to promote their learning and development. This includes regular visits to parent and toddler groups and trips to local places of interest like Hamworthy park and Farmer Palmers. Children receive good support from the childminder as they learn to do things for themselves, such as using the pritt stick in creative activities and turning the knobs on the cooker to make the noises. They use their imagination well as they pretend to cook tea, set the plates on the table and carefully pour a cup of tea for the childminder. Children's awareness of number is increased as they play together with the childminder, although, on occasions some of the activities are too advanced for the younger children.

Children learn about healthy life styles, including eating healthy snacks and following good hand hygiene routines. This is successfully re-enforced in their play as they pretend to wash their hands before making the tea during role play. The provision of outdoor play equipment and visits to weekly music and movement sessions help to support children's physical development. In general, appropriate measures are in place to promote children's safety. Children are learning how to keep themselves safe, they take part in evacuation practices which helps them learn what to do in an emergency situation.

## 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?	3
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.