

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	104758
<b>Inspection date</b>	08/03/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Jan Healy
<b>Type of setting</b>	Childminder

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## 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 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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

## **Description of the childminding**

The childminder registered in 1989. She is registered on the Early Years Register, the compulsory part of the Childcare Register and the voluntary register. She lives with her husband and adult daughter. They live on a residential estate in South Moulton, Devon. The lounge, hallway, kitchen, bathroom and third bedroom are available for childminding, and a fully enclosed garden is easily accessible from the house. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years and is currently caring for six children in the early years age group. The family own one cat. There is easy access into the home and a drive for the advantage of parking.

## **The overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The children are happy and their welfare is promoted, as their individual needs are met. The childminder is capable of maintaining existing high standards, as she is enthusiastic about her role and is able to continually improve her provision. She recognises that each child is unique and supports their progress in a warm and affectionate environment.

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

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

- increase resources that reflect diversity
- link the planning to the six areas of learning to ensure they are all adequately covered

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

The children are safeguarded, as the childminder has good knowledge about child protection and about the procedure to follow in the event that she witnesses a concern. She is aware of the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and as she knows the children in her care very well, she is able to recognise any significant change in their appearance or behaviour. The children are treated with equality and all have the attention they require to aid their confidence and self-esteem.

Resources are deployed effectively to enable the children to self-select items of their choice, aiding to further their independence. Toys help the children to develop their skills for the future, including programmable games and the children are making a positive contribution as they feel a sense of belonging. Plans are in place for the children's learning, with observations taking place to help the childminder to organise activities that not only aid their development but are

interesting and support their interests. However, the childminder does not link the planning to the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure all six areas of learning are being adequately covered. The childminder has a method of self-evaluation in place, which helps her to identify the areas of strength and weakness within her provision. She is committed to continuous improvement for the benefit of all.

The childminder works in partnership with the parents, sharing all relevant information about the children's progress as well as providing them with written policies and statements about the provision. Suitable written parental agreements are in place and there is a clear procedure to follow in the event that the parents wish to raise a concern. A good partnership is also in place with other provider's who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure consistency of care and learning.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children**

The childminder takes appropriate precautions to ensure the children in her care remain healthy and free from cross-infection. The home remains clean due to a regular routine and the children are taught about the importance of maintaining their own personal hygiene. Mealtimes are sociable affairs, when the children have the opportunity to chat to each other about events that are important to them, which not only aids to further their social skills, but also helps to further their vocabulary. The childminder holds a current first aid certificate and is confident to deal with an accident, all of which are carefully recorded and are shared with the parents. Written parental permission is sought for the seeking of emergency medical treatment or advice, to prevent the delay in the children from receiving the care they require. The children are taught to keep themselves safe when on outings to the woods, such as to listen carefully for traffic before crossing the road and they are protected from adults who are not vetted. Smoke alarms are regularly tested and the children take part in an emergency evacuation procedure, so they become familiar with the necessity of leaving the premises without delay. Electrical sockets are covered and all dangerous fluids and sharp instruments are kept out of the children's reach. Parents are kept fully informed about the procedure that will take place in the event of a child becoming lost or is uncollected. The children behave well, as they are happy and content to be in the care of the childminder, who speaks to them with respect and kindness. The childminder is a good role model which the children emulate, making for a harmonious atmosphere. There are few resources, however, that reflect positive images of diversity.

The children have the advantage of taking part in a wide range of activities that aid their learning and development. They interlock jigsaws which aids their fine motor skills and they couple trains. They enjoy making marks on paper and print pictures using leaves and paint. There are a broad range of picture, story and resource books which not only aids the children's understanding that print has meaning, but also helps to further their thinking skills and language. They participate in group games in the garden whilst playing cooperatively and climb large apparatus, furthering their fitness and stamina.

## 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*

### The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

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

<b>How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

### The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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## **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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