

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	125545
<b>Inspection date</b>	20/11/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Linda Patricia Coccia
<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 has been registered since 1991. She lives with her husband and teenage son in the Whitfield area of Dover. The ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding with access to the first floor bathroom and a bedroom for sleeping. There is a fully enclosed rear garden for outside play. There is a small step into the porch area. Schools, pre-schools, toddler groups, shops and parks are all within walking distance.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register. She is registered to care for a up four children under eight years; of these, not more than three may be in the early years age group. The childminder has two children on roll but they have not attended since the end of August. Therefore, there were no children present at the inspection. The childminder is registered on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She offers a full and part time service, including out of school care.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder is effective in providing children with an enjoyable experience whilst they are being looked after. She has a good range of toys and activities for the children to use. She is committed to implementing the Early Years Foundation Stage and has effected a number of changes to procedures since receiving a copy of it. This shows that she is able to maintain continuous improvement in her service.

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

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

- continue to develop the learning journey development record when caring for children

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

The childminder has organised her service well. She has given regard to previous actions and recommendations when formulating her written safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures. For example she has included a complaints procedure and log. She has been unable to attend a local authority child protection up-date course as there are no local ones available until June 2010. She has ensured that all adults who reside on the premises hold a current Criminal Record Bureau check. In order to formulate new procedures the childminder undertook a self evaluation of her service to bring herself in-line with the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has plans to include parents in her evaluation in the future.

She has considered the use of her resources and has included them in her risk assessment. She has a suitable range of safety equipment and baby equipment available. The childminder maintains children's records well and keeps the attendance record up-to-date, clearly showing children's arrival and departure times.

The childminder offers an inclusive service for children. She has experience of caring for children from different racial backgrounds and cultures and has procedures in place to help her care for children with special educational needs and disabilities. She is able to promote equality and diversity with the children by answering questions and providing toys with positive images of race and culture, for example, in her books and games. The childminder is aware that she needs to develop partnerships with other agencies that are involved with individual children. Currently this involves a local playgroup and a local school. The childminder acts as an intermediary between parents and each provision. Parents' comments in previous references and thank you cards show that they appreciate the extent of the childminder's care and support of their children.

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

Children are able to have an enjoyable experience with the childminder. The children arrive happily and settle in well. They can use a good range of quality toys and activities which help them progress in all areas of development. The childminder provides lots of board games for children to learn about taking turns and sharing. There is plenty of role play equipment such as dressing up clothes and small world figures. The childminder ensures she takes children to local amenities such as the park and local toddler groups. These enable children to develop social skills and enjoy physical play activities. The childminder ensures she challenges children to help them to develop skills for the future. For example, she helps them to learn to count and identify shapes as well as recognising letters and numbers. The childminder has a good understanding of how young children learn and develop. She has begun to observe children and assess their next steps. She plans activities which cater for individual children but are flexible enough for all children to join in. She has considered different ways to record her findings and will continue to develop these when the children return to being looked after.

The childminder ensures that children's dietary requirements are met as she discusses each child's needs with their parents. Parents are required to give the childminder written permissions to seek emergency medical treatment and to administer medicine. Procedures are designed to offer children consistency of care and to contribute towards their health. The childminder's behaviour management policy details the strategies used with children. Repetitive reminders help the children know the rules for suitable behaviour and help them to respect the toys and each other. The childminder discusses any individual behaviour requirements with parents.

## 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>	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

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

<b>How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

### 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>	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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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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