

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY401416
<b>Inspection date</b>	14/04/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Liz Margaret Caluori
<b>Type of setting</b>	Childminder

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It rates council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

Royal Exchange Buildings  
St Ann's Square  
Manchester  
M2 7LA

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

© Crown copyright 2009

## 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 was registered in 2009. She lives with her husband and two children aged five and three years in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Childminding generally takes place on the ground floor although most of the areas of the house are available to minded children. There is also a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of four children at any one time, of whom two can be in the early years age group. She currently has three children on roll, all of whom are in the early years age group and all attend on a part time basis. She is also able to support children with additional educational needs and/or disabilities.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She is a member of the National Childminding Association and receives support from the local authority.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are relaxed and settled in the childminder's home, playing happily with their friends and confidently selecting the games that they wish to take part in. The care and attention given to identifying their individual needs ensures that they are making good progress in all areas of their development. Children are protected by robust safety precautions and positive partnerships with parents, carers and others help to provide consistency of care. The childminder has good arrangements in place to reflect on her practices and to identify areas for improvement.

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

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

- improve the maintenance of accident records by ensuring that they do not include the names of individuals other than the person to which the record relates
- review the systems for recording individual children's progress to more clearly indicate their progress towards each early learning goal of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

The childminder has undertaken a risk assessment of her home and garden and, as a result, has put in place a number of precautions to ensure children's safety.

These include the use of gates to restrict their access to the stairs. Risk assessments are also undertaken of all outings. Clear written information is provided for parents and carers outlining the childminder's commitment to child protection. She is confident in her ability to detect the potential signs and symptoms of abuse and fully understands her responsibility to report any concerns that she may have.

The childminder has very good arrangements in place to review her practices and to identify areas for improvement. She has an extremely clear knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She maintains all of the records and documentation required for the safe and efficient delivery of her service. These are generally extremely well thought out, clear and accurately maintained. However, some of the accident records contain details of individuals other than the person to whom the record relates. This does not ensure sufficient confidentiality.

The childminder has effective systems in place to record her observations and the next steps that she has identified for each child. She has yet to extend this to clearly indicate the rate at which they are progressing. As a result she lacks a useful tool on which to reflect but this is largely compensated for by her high level of knowledge of child development and the individual personalities, likes and dislikes of the children in her care. This enables her to plan activities which she is confident they will enjoy and which are aimed at helping them to progress towards the early learning goals.

Extremely positive relationships are maintained with parents, carers and other professionals. The childminder has produced an exceptionally good range of written information including the process to follow should parents and carers wish to make a complaint. The childminder also makes time available to share information verbally which ensures that all involved adults regularly consult on each child's development. This allows the childminder to provide consistent and coordinated care which is tailored to respect each child's very individual needs.

A written statement details the childminder's commitment to promoting equality and anti-discriminatory practice. She has a very positive attitude towards teaching children about different customs, cultures and lifestyles and has a range of toys and books which reflect images of people from throughout the community and wider world.

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

Children have a great deal of fun as they explore the childminder's home, choosing the activities they wish to take part in. They have access to an extremely good range of toys and resources including a wonderful collection of books. They enjoy the freedom that they receive to make choices and are becoming very independent in their learning. The childminder offers a very good level of support and encouragement, skilfully extending children's enjoyment and learning.

Children enjoy regular outings in the local area including trips to feed the ducks in the park. This gives them an opportunity to learn about their environment, develop their physical skills and to play in the fresh air. They respond very well to the childminder's warm, friendly and playful manner and spend a lot of time laughing and joking.

Children are developing very good self-esteem and are beautifully behaved. They have very good manners, are polite and are learning to share and take turns. The childminder recognises that the children are currently very interested in arts and crafts and offers very regular opportunities for them to enjoy gluing, sticking, painting and drawing. Children are very creative and produce very individual and expressive art. In addition, they are particularly well supported to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world. For example, a child speaks knowledgeably about dinosaurs and uses his existing knowledge and lively imagination to play with words and invent the 'Oogarraptor'. Children also take part in games, including action rhymes which help them to practice their counting and to begin to explore simple addition and subtraction by working out how many 'Speckled Frogs' will remain when one is taken away.

The childminder's home is very clean and tidy and children are given very good support to understand the importance of good hygiene and following a healthy lifestyle. They routinely wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. In addition, they are given gentle reminders to blow their nose and dispose of their tissues. A varied range of nutritious snacks and meals are offered, carefully planned to meet children's dietary requirements. Children also have constant access to drinks.

The childminder maintains a current first aid certificate enabling her to treat children in case of a minor accident. She also has appropriate procedures in place to deal with sick children and to administer medication if required.

## 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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
--	---

### 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

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
--	-----