

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	109156
<b>Inspection date</b>	06/07/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Sue Taylor

<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 was registered in 1998. She lives with her husband and two children aged 15 and 17 years in Uckfield, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. The ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play. The family have a cat and a goldfish in a bowl.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. The childminder is currently minding three children in this age group. She is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register and is currently minding two children in this age group.

The childminder collects children from the local school and attends toddler groups on a regular basis.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder is not meeting a number of safeguarding welfare requirements in the Early years Foundation Stage framework. In addition welfare requirements under documentation and suitable premises are not fully met. The childminder has failed to recognise the breaches of requirements which indicate that her capacity to maintain continuous improvement is weak. The childminder provides a homely environment where children are welcomed, happy and respected for who they are. However, their learning and development is not effectively assessed or monitored to promote good progress towards the early learning goals.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

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

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

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|--|------------|
| • engage with and provide information for parents about all required policies and procedures including equality of opportunity, safeguarding children and complaints (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) | 20/07/2010 |
| • obtain and maintain an appropriate first aid certificate (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)  | 01/09/2010 |
| • keep written records of all medicines administered to children and inform parents (Safeguarding and  | 06/07/2010 |

- promoting children's welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)
- ensure there is an accurate daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises including their hours of attendance (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 07/07/2010
- develop the risk assessment record to include the garden and ensure that identified aspects that need to be checked on a regular basis show when and by whom they have been checked (Suitable premises, environment and equipment). 30/07/2010

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop further children's individual records to note links to the areas of learning, showing children's progress towards the early learning goals from their starting point, identifying next steps to share clearly with parents, encouraging parents involvement and contributions to the assessment process
- develop further the links and communication with other Early Years Foundation Stage providers that children attend, to support their learning and consistency of care.

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

The childminder does not have a valid paediatric first aid certificate to demonstrate she is aware of current practices. This puts children at risk in the event of an accident. She obtains basic written consent from parents to give particular medication but does not keep a record of medication given. In addition the childminder is unable to demonstrate that she shares with parents the required information regarding policies and procedures, such as those for child protection and complaints. As a result it is not clear if parents are fully aware of her practices. She ensures that all household members aged over 16 years have a Criminal Records Bureau check in place, helping to keep children safe. The childminder has an acceptable understanding and knowledge of possible signs and symptoms to indicate a child protection concern and is aware of who to contact.

The childminder checks that her home is safe for children to use and has a safety gate at the playroom door to prevent access to other areas of the home when necessary. However, while a risk assessment record is available and contains some detail about identified risks, it is brief and does not cover all areas of the childminder's home and in particular the garden. Neither is it clear when the record is completed or reviewed. This breaches a specific legal requirement under suitable premises.

Relevant detail about the children is obtained from parents and most appropriate records kept. However, the record of children's attendance is not kept up to date and as such is not a daily record as required for the Early Years Foundation Stage

and breaches a specific legal requirement under documentation.

The mobile children benefit from being able to access the garden and outdoor play equipment from the small playroom, giving them some free flow to outside. Some resources are easily accessed by children in the playroom enabling them to make decisions about their play in addition to the activities planned by the childminder. She is aware of each child's interests and has a general knowledge of their learning needs. Daily records are kept of how they spend their day and with babies this includes detail to parents about their care needs such as meals and sleeping. However, there is no supporting evidence to show how she monitors and evaluates children's ongoing progress across the six areas of learning. Although the childminder is able to give an overview of children's achievements, there is no clear identification of children's next steps or detail of how children's progress is planned for and promoted. From discussion the childminder demonstrates she is aware of the areas she needs to develop to bring about improvement in children's learning and assessment. She completed the Ofsted self-evaluation form; however, she failed to identify a number of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements that are not being met.

A positive relationship exists between the childminder and parents, with detail about meeting children's individual care needs shared and met. This helps support children's development and well-being. However, parents are less able to be involved in supporting their child's progress in their learning and are not routinely contributing to the assessment process. The childminder is aware of the need to liaise with other Early Years Foundation Stage providers involved with the children she cares for. There is some exchange of information to help ensure children get the support they need for continuity of learning and care.

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

The childminder has a warm and caring relationship with children. They are very comfortable and settled with her, willing to take part in activities. She values each child as an individual and knows their likes and dislikes. She provides activities and resources to help support individual children's learning and development needs. However, supporting information is limited making it difficult to know how well children are progressing in relation to their starting points and individual capabilities or what their next steps are. However, overall they are developing skills for the future.

The childminder is very involved with the children and their play. At times she enables the child to take the lead and ensures that they are happily occupied. Together they enjoy reading a story book or playing with the play dough. The older children enjoy the puzzles, some of which support their learning in numbers and letters. Children visit the library and join other children during the music session with singing and playing instruments. Children are gaining an awareness of the wider world from playing with resources that reflect other cultures and disabilities. The childminder positively encourages children's language development and children are keen to communicate with others. This also helps children's self-

esteem and confidence. They enjoy physical play outside in the garden and visit local parks where they benefit physically from using the large play equipment. Babies and young children are supported in their physical development as they have space to move and toys to manipulate. Older children develop fine motor skills through activities such as threading beads and making necklaces.

Young children begin to learn how to keep themselves safe through explanations given by the childminder and her attention to their safety. However, the fact that children show they feel safe is compromised as some of the safeguarding legal requirements are not met. Children have easy access to their own drinking beaker throughout the day. The details of a baby's home routines are obtained from parents and met. The children respond to requests from the childminder and behave well.

## 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>	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

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

<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	4
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	4

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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	4
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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for; Records to be kept). 13/07/2010
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 30/07/2010
- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 30/07/2010

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for; Records to be kept). 13/07/2010
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 30/07/2010
- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 30/07/2010