

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY304245
<b>Inspection date</b>	29/09/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Doreen Forsyth
<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 2005. She lives with her husband and their young daughter in a house in the city of Southampton. The premises are easily accessible from the road and close to local schools, shops and parks. Minded children have access to the ground floor of the property, a fully enclosed rear garden is available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children under the age of eight years at any one time, of whom no more than two may be in the early years age range. When working with an assistant the childminder can increase the numbers she cares for to seven children under the age of eight, of these five can be in the early years age group. She may offer overnight care to two children. There are currently nine children on roll, of these four are in the early years age range.

This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The family have a pet cat.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

This capable and caring childminder welcomes and values all children whatever their background or ability. She recognises the uniqueness of all children and endeavours to support each child and work in partnership with their parents to meet their individual needs. The childminder understands she must promote the children's welfare and safety, but she has not informed Ofsted of a significant change to her household which is a specific legal requirement. The childminder has identified some of the priorities for improvement in her provision, and she aims to continually improve.

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

To meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- include into the safeguarding policy the procedures to be followed in the event of allegations being made against a member of the household (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 13/10/2010
- ensure that for each type of outing, a full risk assessment is carried out. The assessment must be reviewed before embarking on each specific outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 18/10/2010
- ensure the record of the risk assessment states when 18/10/2010

it was carried out, by whom, the date of review and any action taken following a review of incident (Documentation)

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

- ensure the assessments and observations that are carried on the children's progress are firmly linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage so that children's progress in all areas is monitored, and use the observations to identify how children can be helped to move onto the next step in their learning.

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

Most of the documentation, records and policies that are necessary for the safe and effective management of the Early Years Foundation Stage are in place and shared with parents as necessary; the childminder is suitably organised. However, at the inspection it was found that the childminder has committed an offence by failing to notify Ofsted of a person over the age of 16 living on the premises. This is a specific legal requirement of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. As the risk to the children is minimised because the childminder ensures that only vetted adults have unsupervised access to the children, Ofsted does not intend to prosecute on this occasion. The childminder is aware of her role and responsibilities regarding safeguarding children, but she has not implemented a policy regarding the procedures she will follow if allegations of abuse are made against a member of the household.

The children play on the ground floor of the home. They use the kitchen for meals and messy play and have access to a suitably resourced and welcoming playroom. Here the toys are arranged so that the children can easily access them, which fosters their independence. The childminder has risk assessed her home to ensure it is safe, for example a safety gate prevents the children accessing the utility room, but the childminder has not signed the risk assessments or shown a date when she will review them. She has not carried out risk assessments on the regular outings that they undertake. Children can play in the enclosed rear garden whenever the weather is suitable. The childminder erects a gazebo in the summer months to ensure the children have protection from the sun.

The childminder implements her equal needs policy well; she welcomes all children, including those that may have special educational need and/or disabilities, and those who speak English as an additional language. She works closely with parents so that together they ensure children's welfare needs are met. She is aware that she must liaise with other early years providers and professionals, when necessary, to ensure a quick response to any areas of particular difficulty.

The childminder uses feedback from parents and other early years professionals to help her evaluate and assess the quality of the provision she offers. She is using a distance learning course to obtain relevant childcare qualifications so that she can

enhance her skills and knowledge and fully promote the outcomes for children.

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

Children appear settled, happy and relaxed with the childminder, and they have a close relationship with her. They enjoy playing with a satisfactory range of toys that are available to them in the playroom. Through the suitable range of activities that the childminder provides, such as playing outside, going for walks, visiting a children's centre, drawing and looking at books, the children take part in activities to cover the six areas of learning. They especially enjoy imaginative role play and dressing up. The childminder has started to record the children's progress in 'learning stories' which parents are encouraged to add to. At present there is limited information recorded and the observations are not linked to the early learning goals making it difficult for the childminder to identify any gaps in the provision. She does not yet use the information she gleans from the learning stories, to plan a next step in the children's individual learning.

When with the childminder the children are helped to be healthy and learn suitable health and hygiene routines. The childminder provides healthy and nutritious meals and snacks, and the children can always access their own drinks. They understand that they must wash their hands when necessary. The children are able to rest and sleep according to their needs. The childminder puts travel cots in the dining area for them to have a quiet after lunch nap. Children have some opportunities to play outside in the fresh air and they occasionally visit a play park where there is equipment that they can use to develop their physical skills. All the necessary sickness, accident and medication records and policies are in place. The childminder regularly practises the emergency evacuation procedures with the children and when they are out walking they discuss road safety. These activities help children to learn about keeping themselves safe.

The childminder uses suitable strategies to help the children to behave appropriately. She offers them lots of praise and encouragement. The children enjoy receiving stickers as a reward for their achievements. There are written house rules for the older children, but the childminder adapts her behaviour methods according to the ages and ability of the individual children. Children begin to understand about diversity through the activities they take part in and through some of the resources they use, such as the range of small world figures. The children enjoy learning about different countries as part of a 'world cup' project. The children are progressing in communication and literacy skills; they are beginning to learn about the importance of sharing and to consider the needs of others. These are skills they will need for the future.

## 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>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
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	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	3
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:

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 (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) 18/10/2010

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 (Suitability and Safety of Premises and equipment) 13/10/2010