

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	507258
<b>Inspection date</b>	10/12/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	ISP Inspection
<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 1997. She has a recognised childcare qualification. She lives with her partner and two children aged five and seven years. They live in a house in Ashted near to a railway station, parks, schools and shops. The whole of the ground floor of the property and two bedrooms are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding two children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder attends the local carer and toddler group on a regular basis. The childminder supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The childminder has experience of caring for children who have English as an additional language.

The childminder is a member of an approved childminding network although currently she does not have any children in receipt of funding for early education.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

Children thrive in the warm, caring and stimulating environment where exciting learning experiences are planned and provided that help each child make progress and achieve. They thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder and build strong emotional bonds with her. Children's health and safety are extremely well promoted in the child friendly setting. Each child is valued as an individual and their needs met through highly effective partnerships with parents and others. The childminder shows a very strong commitment to continually improving outcomes for children through ongoing training and reviewing of her childcare practices that includes input from other professionals, parents and children.

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

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- develop further ongoing opportunities for all parents to share what they know about their child's progress.

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

The childminder has an excellent awareness of her role in helping to protect children in her care. She shows a very good understanding of possible signs of child abuse and neglect and the correct procedure for addressing these concerns. High priority is given to keeping children safe and secure at all times. Robust and comprehensive risk assessments help her ensure she has successfully identified and minimised all hazards to children. Children's safety and welfare is also significantly enhanced by the well maintained documentation and close working with parents and other providers.

The extensive range of safe and suitable resources is used exceptionally well by the childminder to support and extend children's learning. These are in excellent condition and are of very good quality. The dedicated playroom greatly enhances children's experiences and is also used well to display their work. The childminder makes the area colourful and attractive with plenty of posters and pictures for children to look at. The room is used exceptionally well for the children as the childminder creates different play areas for them including a mark making table, home corner and an exploratory area.

The partnerships with parents are very good as they receive an extensive range of helpful information about the childcare provision. The childminder works hard with parents to ensure that she meets children's individual needs and respects their home backgrounds. Overall, there are excellent systems for parents to share what they know about their child's achievements at home. They are kept very well informed about their child's progress through regular meetings to review and discuss the learning records so that learning can be extended at home. Daily progress and the child's welfare are shared through the effective use of daily diaries and verbal feedback. The childminder has formed excellent links with other providers who share the care and education of individual children. This enables the childminder to provide continuity and coherence in a child's learning and development. Excellent support systems also result in any children with additional needs receiving the extra support they need to help them make good progress.

The childminder's regular quality checks from support workers and self-assessment enable her to successfully identify and address areas for improvement. She actively seeks the views of parents and children and acts upon their suggestions. She shows a keenness to improve her own knowledge and skills so that children will benefit. The childminder shows that she is adaptable and flexible as she readily alters her practices as needed when there are changes in the childcare field.

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

The childminder provides a very welcoming environment for children. They eagerly enter the home and show their independence is developing really well as they take

off their coats and boots. They rush to the playroom where they find a wide variety of exciting and stimulating activities and resources to choose from. Children can reach a lot of the clearly labelled storage or ask the childminder for resources that are less easy to access independently. They thoroughly enjoy the special activities that the childminder plans and provides for them to help them develop. They love playing in the water and fishing for the different objects. They have fun exploring the shells, sparkly pebbles and the texture of the natural sponge. Children help themselves to digital cameras and video cameras, taking pictures of what is going on around them. Children's imagination is promoted exceptionally well as they play in the home corner and take part in fun creative activities. They enjoy the opportunities to make marks and explore different media and textures.

The childminder interacts extremely well with the children as they play and helps them develop skills that will aid them in their future lives. She is very skilled at extending their learning and thinking. She helps develop their understanding of the natural world as they talk together about what they see and look at the book of sea creatures and listen to the sounds. The childminder reinforces counting and colours through play and everyday routines such as snack times. Children develop excellent skills in communication as they are encouraged to express their ideas and share their experiences. They speak very confidently and learn about the link between letters and sounds. Children learn to problem solve as the childminder actively encourages them to work things out for themselves, giving support when the child needs it. They have great fun playing on the cube where they turn the cogs and wheels.

Children learn about the wider world and diversity through well planned activities and the excellent range of resources. They take part in creative activities where they make Rangoli patterns and 'write' using different scripts from other countries. They chat together about why some people wear glasses and find out about one another's home backgrounds. Children with additional needs receive an excellent level of support and care that is focused on meeting their individual needs and helping them achieve. The childminder has high quality assessment processes that are used extremely effectively to guide future planning for every child, taking into account their level of ability and need. She identifies learning priorities for them and then plans imaginative and fun activities that she knows will interest them but also help them develop further.

Children build excellent relationships with peers and adults. They play well together and readily share resources. They show a very strong sense of security and belonging. They learn to take responsibility for their actions and show an excellent understanding of what behaviour is expected in order to keep others safe as they discuss why they should not take wheeled toys on the carpet. Children learn how to keep themselves safe as they practise emergency evacuation and take part in safety projects.

The childminder implements very rigorous procedures that ensure children's health is promoted extremely effectively. Children adopt an excellent understanding of the importance of good personal hygiene through the everyday routines and as they take part in fun activities such as making hand washing posters for the toilet. Regular exercise and outdoor play encourages children to develop healthy

lifestyles. They eat healthily and thoroughly enjoy the wide variety of fruit at snack times.

## 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>	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	1

### 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>	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

### 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>	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	1
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	1

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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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