

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY273663
<b>Inspection date</b>	08/06/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Deborah Kerry
<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 2003. She lives with her husband in Mildenhall High Town in Suffolk. The whole of the ground floor and the toilet on the first floor are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. Accessibility to the premises is via a step.

The childminder is registered to care for six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. There are currently three children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage, all of whom attend on a part-time basis. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years to 10 and is currently minding five children all of whom attend on a part-time basis. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools and playgroups to take and collect children. She attends several local groups, such as parent and toddler, childminding and a music group. She also takes children to the local library, park and woods and she has one cat as a pet.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder ensures that children's welfare, learning and development are fully supported and their individual needs met well. The childminder ensures that she works closely with parents so that all children's individual interests and health needs can be provided for and are fully understood. The childminder has clear systems in place to review and evaluate her practice to ensure children in the Early Years Foundation Stage are fully supported and has identified areas to maintain continuous improvement. She has implemented clear procedures to support the learning and development of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage well. The childminder has a range of policies and procedures in place that reflects most aspects of her good practice which she shares with parents.

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

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

- provide clear information for parents on the procedures for them to follow if they should have a complaint and ensure that a record of these is maintained
- ensure that the safeguarding children policy includes clear procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made about a member of the family.

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

The childminder has a good understanding regarding safeguarding procedures to ensure that children's welfare is a high priority. She has attended safeguarding children training to develop her knowledge and understanding on procedures to follow. Written policies clearly state the steps to take should she have concerns about the welfare of a child. However, there are no clear procedures in place if an allegation is made against a member of her family to ensure that children's welfare is maintained. The childminder has clear risk assessments in place for all areas and the equipment, for both inside and outside of the home. This reflects that the childminder is highly committed in maintaining children's welfare and safety. Risk assessments for each outing are completed; ensuring children's safety is maintained when away from the home. Children practise the evacuation procedures on a regular basis. This is effective in helping them to develop the knowledge on how to keep safe in an emergency.

The childminder has developed close relationships with parents of minded children. They exchange information each day on the children's day-to-day care needs and home routines. The childminder also writes a daily diary on each child to reflect the range of activities they undertake when in the childminder's care. Parents have added comments to children's learning journey records and to their diaries. This shows that they are fully involved with their children's learning. None of the minded children currently attend other settings, the childminder is fully aware that when children start so that systems to exchange information for the consistency of their care and learning can be established. Children are taken on regular outings in the local community to support their understanding on people's differences and the wider world. The childminder has a wide range of resources and undertakes activities on the beliefs of others to extend children's knowledge on diversity. The childminder ensures that she shares all her clear written, policies and procedures with parents. This helps to keep them informed about her practice and the service that she provides.

The childminder has clear systems in place to support children's learning and development successfully. The childminder has undertaken training on the Early Years Foundation Stage to develop her knowledge about the requirements to support and benefit children's ongoing learning. She has reviewed her practice and is keen to attend further training to help improve her practice further so that children's progress is fully supported and continuous improvement is maintained. She provides parents with information on how to contact Ofsted if they are not happy with the care that she provides. However, there are no clear procedures in place for them to follow if they want to make a complaint about her service. Parents have provided the childminder with positive written feedback on her practice.

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

The childminder ensures that she works closely with parent regarding children's individual dietary requirements. She ensures that food provided by parents is stored appropriately. The childminder has in place clear procedures to effectively promote children's health and medical needs. Children have access to physical play each day; through walking to school, visits to the park and by accessing the garden so their physical development is excellently promoted. Children are learning exemplary hygiene routines as they know that they wash their hands before eating and after using the potty. The childminder provides children with a variety of fresh fruit for snacks. This helps to enhance their understanding on eating foods to promote their health. Children are taken on regular outings within the local community to develop their understanding on the world around them and their environment. The childminder gets together with other local childminders to support children's social skills and interaction with other children.

Children's independence is promoted as they are able to make choices about the resources they play with, and they are supported with learning how to feed themselves. The childminder encourages children to share and take turns with resources which help children to learn how to behave well. She organises her home so that children have independent access to resources that effectively meet their interests and learning needs. The childminder interacts well with minded children to develop their speech and language skills. Children enjoy looking at books and the childminder reads them stories. This develops children's interest in literacy and their understanding that the printed word carries meaning. She talks with them about what they can see in the pictures to promote their curiosity and asks them questions to develop their thinking skills. The childminder reads rhyming stories with children to help support their memory, speech and language development. Children learn about their environment through planting seeds and caring for them as they grow. They get to pick and taste the fruit and vegetables to help develop their understanding on eating foods that promote their good health. The childminder supports children's understanding on numeracy as she count how many cars they have. Children are learning to solve problems as they fit the correct shape in to the shape sorters and play with puzzles.

The childminder undertakes regular observations on children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. She records the activities they do and what they have achieved. These are clearly linked to the six areas of learning to show that children are receiving a broad and balanced range of play opportunities to support their ongoing learning and development. She includes photographs of children to reflect their achievements and experiences. The next step in children's learning has been clearly identified; the childminder writes individual play plans for each child around their interests to fully support their ongoing learning and development.

## 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>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
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

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### 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	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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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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