

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	311947
<b>Inspection date</b>	12/10/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Angela Cuffe
<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 2000. She lives with her husband and two children aged 17 and 14 in Hyde, Cheshire, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. The whole of the ground floor childminder's home is used for childminding purposes, except for the rear lounge. There is an enclosed garden available for outside play. She has a dog as a pet.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, no more than three of which may be in the early years age range. The childminder is registered with Ofsted on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. She is currently minding six children, three of which are in the early years age range.

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 good.

A well developed knowledge of each child's needs makes sure that the childminder promotes children's welfare with success. The partnerships with parents is a strength and significant to children's development. Children are safe well-settled and secure and enjoy learning about their local area and the wider world. Regular self-evaluation by the childminder makes sure that priorities for development are identified and acted on, resulting in a provision that responds to all user needs. Areas for improvement have been identified and particularly focus updating children's progress records and developing links with other provider's of the Early Years.

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

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

- continue to develop the observations, assessment and planning systems to ensure that each child's next steps in their learning and development are identified and met
- develop a system to share the child's progress with other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure continuity and coherence of children's learning and development.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of child protection and is fully aware of her responsibilities if she is concerned about a child's welfare. Robust steps are taken to safeguard children, including vetting procedures for all adults in regular

contact with the children. Health and safety is further maintained due to the implementation of written policies and procedures that are shared with parents as well as regular risk assessments. Fire drills are practised regularly, which ensures children understand what to do should the need to evacuate the premises arise. All of the required records and documentation are in place, shared with parents and updated regularly.

The childminder actively promotes equality and diversity in her practice, which ensures that all children have an understanding of the way other people live. There is a good range of toys, equipment and materials available, which are stored within easy reach of children. These are linked to each of the six areas of learning and displayed well in order to encourage children to participate, and as a result, children are interested and motivated to learn. The childminder shares all of the necessary information each day with parents to keep them informed of their child's development and activities.

The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. She knows the children well and is able to describe, what they can do and what they need to achieve. Nevertheless, the observation and assessment process is not specific to each child's learning and development needs. Links to planning and children's next steps is vague, which means that other interested parties are unable to see the progress children are making, impacting on their overall progress to their early learning goals. The childminder has attended relevant training in core skills since the last inspection and has completed all previous recommendations, this good practice as well as completing a detailed self-evaluation maintains the continuous improvement of the provision.

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

Children are happy, well settled and thrive as they explore and play in the welcoming and homely environment. The childminder's supportive and caring manner gives them a sense of security and confidence to approach her for a cuddle or support when needed. Children are eager to attend and make good progress in their development. They learn as they explore and play with the good selection of interesting and stimulating toys and activities. This ensures that children are able to participate in activities and consequently make good progress. They are enthusiastic and independent and truly enjoy their time at the setting. Children relate well with the childminder and their peers. They behave very well and express their happiness with laughter and smiles. Children understand what is expected in order to keep themselves and others safe. Their understanding of safety issues is maintained through regular discussions, fire drills and good road safety practice. Their progress in communicating, literacy and skills relating to information technology is developing well. They play and work alongside their peers as well as independently. Babies are beginning to develop their early fundamental skills as they actively explore their surroundings with curiosity and interest. Children develop a positive attitude towards diversity as they play with a range of toys, activities and books, that link to various cultures. They learn about the natural world during their time in the garden, growing plants, fruit and vegetables. They go on regular trips to the park and walks in the countryside,

where they pick blackberries to make a pie. They also access a good range of large equipment in the garden, which helps them to develop control and coordination over their bodies. Children eagerly express their creativity as they regularly access a range of mark making and craft materials and take part in regular baking sessions.

Children demonstrate good hygiene routines and benefit from a healthy choice of home cooked meals and snacks. They have continuous opportunities to engage in a range of physical activities, both indoors and out and consequently gain a good knowledge of how regular exercise impacts on maintaining their good health. They have constant access to fresh drinking water to enable them to satisfy their thirst when needed.

## 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	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	3
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
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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	2
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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