

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	115024
<b>Inspection date</b>	19/10/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Cathy Hill

<b>Type of setting</b>	Childminder
------------------------	-------------

---

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

© Crown copyright 2011

## 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 1992. She lives with her husband, who is registered as her assistant, her adult son and 10-year-old daughter. The family lives in the village of South Harting, near Petersfield, Hampshire. Childminding takes place on the ground floor of the property and children have access to an enclosed, rear garden for outdoor play. The family has a dog and cat. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time; of these, no more than three may be in the early years age group. She is currently caring for one child in this age group on a part-time basis during the week. The childminder holds an early years qualification at Level 3.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming, family environment for children's care, learning and play. Children are happy and relaxed and make good progress in their learning. The childminder works in good partnership with parents so that, overall, children's individual needs are suitably met. Documentation is in place to support the childminder's practice, although she is in breach of requirements with regard to maintaining some safety records. The childminder has implemented a written fire procedure, although she has not practised her fire drill with children. Systems to review and assess practice are not fully developed though the childminder's capacity for continuous improvement is satisfactory.

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

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

- keep a record of risk assessment clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident.  
(Documentation)
- 16/11/2011

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

- improve safety by carrying out regular evacuation drills and recording the details with any problems encountered and how they were resolved
- develop reflective practice and self-evaluation to identify the setting's strengths and priorities for development that will improve the quality of provision for all children.

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

Children's welfare is soundly safeguarded by the childminder who is confident with the procedures to follow if she has any child protection concerns. She has the government's referral flow chart on file for reference and has previously had specific training in this area. She carries out a daily safety check of her premises but does not keep a record of risk assessment. This is a breach of a specific legal requirement. Children play safely as they are suitably supervised. The childminder has an arrival and departure policy in place and checks that children are only released to named carers.

The childminder currently cares for children after pre-school hours. They have access to a good variety of toys which is effectively used to promote the development of skills in all areas. Toys and resources are accessible in the living room where these are kept in clear storage drawers to support children's growing independence. The childminder actively promotes equality and diversity. She has a good understanding of children's individual backgrounds and requirements.

The childminder works positively in partnership with parents and others involved in children's care and education. Children benefit from these established communication links as their needs are well known and consistent practice is applied in meeting them. Parents are very positive in their praise of the childminder. They state that she is 'very accommodating and trustworthy' and offers 'a very warm, safe and friendly home'.

The childminder has begun to evaluate on her provision. She has not effectively assessed all areas of her practice to check that all legal requirements are met. Since her last inspection, she has improved the detail in her attendance records. She has also completed qualification training which has increased her knowledge of how to extend and progress children's learning. She is aware of her strengths but has currently identified few areas for further development.

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

Children have good opportunities to develop their future skills through relaxing play activities. They play well independently as they absorb themselves in imaginative play with construction toys and play figures. The childminder effectively complements children's learning at pre-school with fun activities which reinforce and further develop their knowledge and skills. She supportively interacts with children as they sit together to make pictures from felt shapes. She effectively develops children's vocabulary as she names some of the felt shapes, such as an octopus. Children use their initiative, for example, after identify a crab shape. They look at a leaflet showing the possible pictures that can be made with the shapes before deciding which picture they would like to create. They show a good

understanding of problem solving, for example, as they confidently count the legs on the octopus shape.

The children gain a good understanding of a healthy lifestyle. The childminder's policies and procedures are effective in protecting them from illness and infection. As a result, children play in a clean, well-maintained home environment. They have effective opportunities for exercise to reinforce and further develop their physical skills. They show a good awareness about healthy eating. For example, they talk to the childminder about the vegetables they might eat with the meal she is preparing. Children share with the childminder a list of foods that they like and parents confirm that the childminder provides a 'lovely home cooked meal'. Children are aware of their own needs and freely drink when thirsty.

Children have good relationships with the childminder and are happy and at ease in her care. As a result, they feel safe and secure. They show a growing awareness of how to keep themselves safe. For example, they know not to enter the kitchen when the childminder is cooking as the oven will be hot. However, they have had no opportunity to practise the childminder's fire drill to further develop their understanding of safety. Overall, children are content and relaxed and their behaviour is good. This because they play with toys of their choice, sensitively supported by the childminder who is attentive to their needs.

## 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	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
--	---

### 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	3
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

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## 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:

- make available to parents a copy of a written statement of safeguarding procedures (Providing information to parents) 16/11/2011

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:

- make available to parents a copy of a written statement of safeguarding procedures. (Providing information to parents) 16/11/2011