

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	402624
<b>Inspection date</b>	10/11/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Jill Steer
<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 2001. She lives with her husband and two teenage children in Orpington, Kent, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. The whole of the childminder's home is used for childminding. She has a pet cat.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time; of these, no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding three 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 on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder attends several toddler groups on a regular basis. She is a member of an approved childminding network.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, friendly home where most of their care needs are suitably met. The childminder organises an appropriate range of activities so that they enjoy their play and some planning for their individual development is in place. Self-evaluation is in place to help the childminder identify some of her strengths and areas for further development, including behaviour management. This means that she demonstrates satisfactory capacity for maintaining improvement. The childminder has established effective partnerships with parents but does not share all the required information for them to be clear about her practice. The childminder is generally well organized but not all requirements are fully met, such as recording children's daily attendance.

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

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

- maintain a daily record of the names of the children  
looked after on the premises and their hours of  
attendance (Documentation) 10/11/2011

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

- maintain a regular two-way flow of information with parents
- develop observations and planning so that these are used effectively identify children's achievements and plan the next steps in their development

- review the systems in place to enable children to learn right from wrong, to include more positive behaviour management strategies, for example, to focus on the more positive issues.

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

The childminder is suitably experienced to care for young children and attends courses to update her knowledge of childcare practice. She has a sound understanding of signs that a child may be at risk of harm and of the action to take to safeguard them. Daily checks are completed to reduce the hazards in the home so that children can feel safe and secure. The required documentation is in place to ensure the childminder knows about each child's care needs. A daily communication book is in place to share with parents about what children have been doing. Although meeting the requirements, this is done informally and the childminder cannot be sure parents receive all the information they should have. For example, there are no written policies or procedures such as how to complain including how to contact Ofsted. Also, the childminder plans in advance for when children will be attending but does not record their arrival and departure on a daily basis to show when they are present. As a result, there are a number of breaches of specific legal requirements.

The childminder has begun to evaluate her practice to identify her strengths, as well as areas for improvement. She asks the parents for feedback and all speak positively of her fun and caring provision; they are happy to recommend her to others. The childminder has addressed the recommendations set at her last inspection, which demonstrates her ambition to continually improve. The childminder's home is welcoming to both children and parents and organised so that resources are at hand and suitable for the children. Currently, there are no children attending other early years settings. The childminder is suitably aware of the importance of developing partnerships with others involved in the children's lives. The childminder is aware of each child as an individual and, through the resources and outings, raises children's awareness of the diverse society in which they live.

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

Children play happily with the childminder who devotes her time to supporting them. She constantly suggests new games and activities to interest them. For example, after putting fireman felt shapes onto boards, she offers them jigsaw puzzles. Individual, development records are in place for each child, which contain photos and comments of activities the children have enjoyed. However, the observations do not sufficiently focus on individual children's achievements. Therefore, the planning is not targeted to ensure each child is suitably challenged to make effective developmental progress. A large selection of resources is laid out for children so they can choose what they want to play with. They can make

further choices from additional toys stored in a cupboard, which the childminder regularly rotates to keep children interested. Children behave generally well as they learn to share and take turns. They are praised and encouraged by the childminder as they play, which boosts their confidence and self esteem. However, some behaviour management focuses on the more negative issues, which does not help small children learn what is wanted of them.

Much of the children's time is spent out and about visiting playgroups and places of interest. They go to feed the ducks, visit the coast and enjoy the ball park, learning about their environment and community. Children are kept safe on outings, as well as in the childminder's home. She routinely checks places are safe and advises children on how to keep themselves safe through following simple rules. The fresh air and activity on outings help keep children healthy and allow them to be active. The freshly prepared, home cooked meals and drinks that the childminder provides add to this healthy lifestyle. Children sit at the table to enjoy their meals together sociably and water is always available for when they are thirsty. Children know to wash their hands before they eat and so develop good personal hygiene habits.

## 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	3
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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
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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	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
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:

- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints (Procedures for dealing with complaints) 24/11/2011

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:

- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints (Procedures for dealing with complaints) 24/11/2011