

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY318331
Inspection date	28/02/2012
Inspector	Hilary Preece

Type of setting	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.

There were no children on roll when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no children on roll, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states if the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

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 registered in 2006. She lives with her husband and three children aged nine, seven and four years in Brentwood, Essex, close to local amenities. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder's husband occasionally works as a childminding assistant. The family has two guinea pigs. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and has minded three children in the early years age group since registration. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years and is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll in the early years age group.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates through discussion and documentation that she can safeguard children and protect them from harm. She has obtained Criminal Records Bureau disclosures for all adults in the household. Since the last inspections she has attended a training session in safeguarding children and demonstrates a sufficiently secure knowledge of how to identify signs of potential abuse and procedures to follow. These are written down and she is in the process of reviewing her policy to ensure it complies with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board guidelines. The childminder describes how she uses the space and resources in her home to provide children with safe and stimulating play areas. She carries out risk assessments covering all areas of her home, garden and venues of regular outings and records show when these are reviewed. The required policies to meet the welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are available.

The childminder has systems in place for building partnerships with parents and any other agencies in order to support children's individual needs. She tells how she gathers information about each child, their culture and language, and how she uses this to provide consistency when supporting a child's communication and language development, for example. By using some key words and phrases in the child's home language, the childminder is able to emphasise expectations and boundaries.

The childminder demonstrates that she has a secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and gives examples of how she promotes children's learning and development across the six areas of learning. She has developed systems to observe, assess and plan for the needs of individual children. These include written observations illustrated with photographs that document the progress that children make. Regular opportunities are provided to share these records with parents. The childminder states that a range of outings and activities is planned to support children's enjoyment and learning which include music groups, swimming and farm visits.

The childminder has begun to use self-evaluation as a means to improve. She says she enjoys working with children and takes a responsible and professional approach to developing her childminding business. She identifies areas of practice to develop further and takes the necessary steps to make improvements. An example of this is her attendance on a training course to gain a greater knowledge of how to promote children's learning and development and the subsequent introduction of records to monitor the progress children make.

Compliance with registration requirements

The registered person continues to meet the requirements of registration.

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met