

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY313750
<b>Inspection date</b>	23/09/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Ruth Tharme
<b>Type of setting</b>	Childminder

## 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 report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

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.

## **Description of the childminding**

The childminder registered in 2007. He lives with his wife, who is also a registered childminder, and their two children, aged eleven and fourteen years. They live in a semi-detached house in the Arle area of Cheltenham, within walking distance of local shops and amenities. The whole house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. He offers full or part-time care and an after-school collection service from local schools. There are currently nine children on roll, aged between nine months and ten years, who attend for a variety of sessions throughout the week. Minded children attend a local parent-and-toddler group and are taken on regular outings to the library, wildlife park and playgroup.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

The good quality provision promotes the learning and development of children. An effective programme of self-evaluation takes into account the views of parents and enables the identification of particular strengths and weaknesses in the provision, thereby encouraging ongoing improvement. The childminder's clear knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage mean that children take part in a varied and interesting range of activities and experiences that help them to make good progress. Arrangements for safeguarding are well considered and effectively implemented so children are kept safe and feel secure. The childminder has an excellent rapport with children. They enjoy his company and feel happy and relaxed in his care.

## **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 planning cycle to clearly identify what individual children are expected to achieve
- further develop strategies to involve parents in children's learning and encourage them to contribute to the assessment of their children's progress
- keep a record of the times of attendance of all adults working on the premises

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

The provision is well organised with clear policies and procedures in place which ensure effective management. Children's safety and security is given a high priority as potential hazards are identified and addressed through a comprehensive and regularly reviewed risk assessment programme. The childminder takes time to reflect on his practice and to seek the views of parents and other professionals,

which means that continual improvement is maintained. Recommendations made at the last inspection have been effectively addressed, enhancing the quality of the provision. He has a strong commitment to training and has completed a range of courses to develop his knowledge and skills which has a clear benefit to the children in his care. Robust procedures are in place to ensure that children are not at risk from adults who have not been vetted. They are well supervised at all times and relevant checks have been completed on all adults in the household.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Well ordered planning means that children take part in a good range of activities and experiences throughout the day. Care is taken to build on children's own interests and ensure that activities are appropriate to their individual needs. Consequently, children make good progress in all areas of their learning and development. However, plans are not yet sufficiently developed to identify what individual children are expected to achieve from specific activities.

Children learn to keep themselves healthy as they practise effective hand-washing routines and enjoy daily activities out of doors. The childminder holds a current first aid certificate and has a well equipped first aid box readily available, which means that children are treated appropriately if they are ill or have an accident.

Effective precautions, such as the use of socket covers, stair gates and safety steps, help to ensure that children are kept safe. The premises are secure and well considered arrangements are in place to ensure that children are collected safely at the end of their session.

Strong links with parents and other professionals, such as charity workers and support agency staff, mean that children with specific needs receive consistent and appropriate care. Thoughtful strategies, such as using signing and pictures to aid communication, mean that children who speak English as an additional language make good progress. Inclusive practice is actively promoted so all children have their needs met and achieve well. The childminder has a clear and consistent approach to managing behaviour. There are clear ground rules so children are aware of the boundaries. Praise and effective role modelling are used successfully to encourage them to continue to behave well.

There is a very strong partnership with parents, who speak very highly of the care provided. They are consistently well informed about the setting through an informative website and regular newsletters. Text messaging and e-mail is used to keep them up to date with their children's progress. However, arrangements are not yet in place to encourage parents to be involved in their child's learning, or to contribute to the assessment programme.

The operational plan is comprehensive and promotes the smooth running of the provision. Documentation is of a high standard and generally provides accurate records. However, there is no attendance record for the adults working with the children so it is not clear when each individual is present.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Outstanding
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Good

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Good
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	Good
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Outstanding
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Outstanding
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

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: Met

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

## **Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted**

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

### **Detail of the complaint/s**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.