

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	126004
<b>Inspection date</b>	03/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Linda Patricia Coccia
<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 was registered in 1999. She lives with her husband and four children aged between four and 15 years in Minster-on-Sea, Kent. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. There is one small step to access the premises.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children aged under eight years at any one time. She is able to care for up to three children who come within the Early Years Register. She is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is currently minding two children between the ages of one and three years.

The childminder walks or drives to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. She attends local parent/toddler groups and the local childminding group. The family has a pet dog and 2 guinea pigs. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

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

The childminder is good. The childminder effectively meets the needs of all children in order to ensure they have an enjoyable, individual experience at her provision. She is able to maintain continuous improvement as she attends regular training to enhance her knowledge of childcare issues. She provides an inclusive service so that each child's individual needs are met.

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

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

- include information about the six areas of learning in the observational assessments which are shared with parents

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

The childminder effectively evaluates the management of her service through discussion with other childminders at the local childminding group. She also attends regular training, such as updating her knowledge of safeguarding and child protection. She has undertaken a full review of her written policies and procedures in the light of her updated knowledge. Parents are also a key factor in her self assessments as she acts on their comments and works closely with them. For example, individual medication and dietary needs are fully discussed before enrolling children. The childminder has good relationships with local schools and pre-schools which enable her to compliment children's learning at those provisions and provide the appropriate, good quality care.

The childminder has good procedures to safeguard children. She ensures that all adults in her household hold Criminal Record Bureau checks. She also ensures that, in an emergency, children are looked after by suitable persons, i.e. other registered providers. She has a reciprocal care arrangement with another childminder who the children know well. She also ensures that persons collecting children are suitable to do so.

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

Children have a very effective learning experience with the childminder. They explore and investigate the toys as they self select from the range available. Children learn about the world around them as they use pretend mobile phones, play tills and other mechanical tools. They develop good problem solving, numeracy and reasoning skills as they count and group items, stack bricks and weigh food. Their creative skills are well developed. They use interesting mediums to make their creations, such as, using sequins and sparkles for gluing. They achieve well because the childminder is very attentive and whenever possible helps each child individually. The childminder plans activities in advance, taking into account the children's abilities and providing suitable challenges. Her well written observations and photographic evidence give parents a good understanding about their children's individual development. However, she needs to include more information about the six areas of learning.

The childminder has some excellent procedures in place to help children learn about safety and being healthy. The children learn a fire safety song to help them understand why they must practise the emergency evacuation procedures and the childminder further aids them in this by providing pictorial guides. The childminder's written risk assessments on the premises and toys are very thorough. Children are very involved in learning about healthy eating. For example, they cut up their own fruit for snack time and help prepare vegetables for main meals. The childminder has a wealth of photographic evidence showing children enjoying food activities. Children become aware that they do not all like the same foods and that sometimes they can't eat the same food. Children learn about each other's differences.

## 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*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	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: 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 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.