

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	142607
<b>Inspection date</b>	19/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Susan June Stone

<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 has been registered since 1987. She lives with her husband and three children in a modern house on the outskirts of the town of Bruton, Somerset. The main play spaces are provided in the lounge, dining room, kitchen for messy activities and outdoors in a rear garden.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, three of whom may be in the early years age range. At present she is caring for eight children, of whom five are in the early years age range, and three children cared for are aged between five years and 11 years.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are cared for in a well organised, welcoming family home where they participate in a broad range of activities both inside and out. They learn through their play and regular outings around the local area; and make good progress in the development. The good partnership with parents contributes to the childminder knowing each child well. The childminder generally organises her provision and documentation well to support her in providing good care. She is developing systems of evaluating her provision to further improve the quality of care and learning for children.

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

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

- continue to develop assessment systems in order to match the observations of children to the expectations of the learning goals and to identify learning priorities for each child

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

- obtain written permission from parents each time before administering medication to children  
[Promoting good health]

19/03/2009

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her home and daily routines to provide children with a variety of resources and learning opportunities in a safe and secure environment. Her home is used well to ensure children can move around freely and safely as they have access to a variety of activities with a good range of resources being

offered. She generally implements effective policies and procedures to promote children's safety and welfare. She carries out risk assessments to ensure that children can move around freely and play safely both in the home and on outings, and she has a good understanding of how to safeguard children and the procedures to follow with concerns. Most records are in place and completed clearly. However, written permission is not obtained from parents each time that medication is administered to children, which is a breach of requirements.

The childminder has strong, positive relationships with parents and there are regular opportunities for sharing information. Parents are keen to express their compliments for the service provided. The childminder uses information from parents, such as the children's interests and routines, to help her to plan and provide for their individual needs and requirements. In addition the childminder completes a daily diary for parents where she records aspects of the children's day and activities. The childminder is establishing links with other settings that children attend which support the planning in encouraging their learning and development.

The childminder is beginning to use self-evaluation to monitor and evaluate her own practice, to help her strive for continued improvement and she has highlighted some areas where she feels her service could be improved, such as developing her processes for planning and recording her observations of children's progress.

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

The childminder creates a welcoming environment for the children who are happy and settled, as she is very caring and sensitive towards their needs. She demonstrates a good understanding of children's developing needs and provides them with a variety of play opportunities that are interesting and stimulating. She actively plans activities for the children and has introduced a system for observations and assessment to monitor children's progress and achievements. However, the information recorded does not clearly link to the relevant expected areas of development within the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. She knows what the children like, their interests and provides a range of activities to accommodate these. Play provision is set out at children's individual levels to allow them to see and choose things for themselves to promote independent play and exploration. Children's emotional well-being is supported, as the childminder dedicates her time to supporting and interacting with them. The children enjoy good individual attention and it is evident that close, caring relationships have been established.

The childminder is suitably involved with the children as they play, she manages activities well to ensure all children can participate at their own level and gain from the experience. She talks to them as they play, broadening their understanding and encouraging language and communication through discussion. She talks about colour and size and the different shapes the children are using as they decorate a bag for a gift for Mother's day. The older children are confident to create their own designs and share their thoughts with the childminder. The childminder talks with the children about the significance of Mother's day, saying it is a special day to

thank our mummies for all the nice things they do for us. She also talks about recycling during the activity, explaining what we can do with our used paper and how it is good for us to care for the environment. Children have good relationships with each other and have developed good relationships with the childminder. They freely share the resources and ask if the others would like to use the pink crayon as they have finished using it. They also show respect for the youngest child as they play, allowing her time to try to pop the animals where they push, twist and slide different buttons. They laugh and smile together when they are successful in making the dragon pop up. The childminder asks the children, 'it's smiling, do you think it is a friendly dragon?' The children show enjoyment as they all sing songs together, joining in with the words and playing musical instruments, tapping a rain-stick in time to the rhythm. Children play together well and show they are confident and relaxed in the presence of the childminder.

Children's health is promoted effectively through the clean and well-maintained environment. They are protected from cross contamination through good hygiene procedures, for example having their own towels for drying hands and good procedures followed by the childminder when changing nappies. Daily routines encourage children to develop a healthy lifestyle as they are taken for walks in the fresh air and are offered drinks frequently alongside nutritious meals that are provided by the parents.

## 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?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
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 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.