

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	145513
Inspection date	14/09/2009
Inspector	Catherine Louise Sample
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.

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 2000. She lives with her partner in the village of Chapmanslade, near Westbury in Wiltshire. Their home is an easily accessible semi-detached bungalow in a rural location. All of the home can be used for childminding. There is an enclosed rear garden available for outside play. The childminder has a number of pets including a dog, two birds and chickens.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for six children under eight, of whom three may be in the early years age range. There are currently three children in the early years age range on roll. The childminder welcomes children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are making appropriate progress in this supportive setting. The childminder works with parents and other providers to ensure that she can understand and meet children's unique needs. She takes positive steps to ensure that all children can take part in activities whatever their stage of development or background. She has begun to evaluate her provision and identify areas for further development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- conduct a risk assessment and record when it was carried out and by whom. Regularly review the risk assessment, at least once a year, and include in the record the date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 05/10/2009
- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment (Promoting good health) 05/10/2009

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

- develop the range of activities and resources available to help children learn positive attitudes to diversity and difference and to value aspects of their own and other people's lives
- further develop systems for observing and assessing children's progress and use them to identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating

learning experiences for each child

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children benefit from the childminder's many years of experience working in childcare and her effective implementation of a varied range of policies and procedures. Children's welfare is promoted through the effective keeping of most necessary records. However, the childminder does not currently have written parental consent to seek emergency medical advice and/or treatment which could lead to delays in an emergency situation. Children are appropriately safeguarded due to the childminder's sound understanding of child protection issues and her understanding of how to protect children from unvetted persons. She has started to monitor and evaluate her practice and identify areas for further development, such as developing the outside area and extending the range of resources available.

The effective working relationship between the parents and the childminder ensures that relevant information is shared and therefore, children's needs are understood and met. The childminder ensures that children's individual dietary needs are met sensitively. Children are making some progress towards learning about the wider society and diversity, although the range of relevant resources and activities provided is limited. The childminder has experience of caring for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. She takes positive steps, such as working closely with parents and using the internet as a research tool, to ensure that she can effectively cater for the additional needs of some children. She makes good use of the outdoor space at her home to allow children to grow vegetables and collect eggs from the chickens. She has an appropriate range of resources and has recently been awarded a grant to extend this selection. She promotes sustainability by making some of her own resources, such as flash cards.

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

Children are learning about healthy lifestyles as they grow and harvest their own produce, and care for the childminder's chickens and collect the eggs every day. They also visit the local farm shop regularly and this helps them to learn where their food comes from. They spend a lot of time outdoors, where they get plenty of exercise and fresh air. They are learning about keeping safe as the childminder talks to them about the possible risks of open fires and stoves, and asks them to think about what would happen if they run and bump into younger children. The childminder takes steps to ensure that the environment is sufficiently safe, although she does not carry out formal risk assessments of her home or for outings which could put children at risk.

Children are learning good manners and the childminder has appropriate ground rules for behaviour which she shares with them. They play an active role in the setting as they set the table and help with the cooking. They are proud of their

achievements and are becoming active learners who ask questions and solve problems, such as how to fit a tractor into a shed. They are learning to communicate well and enjoy taking part in imaginative small world play. They have excellent opportunities to find out about the natural world. They enjoy gardening, caring for the chickens and watching the birds feeding on the heads of sunflowers that they have grown themselves. The childminder is aware of children's individual learning needs and takes account of their requirements and interests. She has just begun to make observations and assessments of each child and to use this information, along with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, to plan for their next steps. This will allow children to reach their full individual potential.

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

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	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

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
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:

- make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint (Procedures for dealing with complaints) (also applies to the Voluntary Childcare Register) 05/10/2009
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) (also applies to Voluntary Childcare Register) 05/10/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 05/10/2009

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:

- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) 05/10/2009
- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Procedures for dealing with complaints) 05/10/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 05/10/2009