

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY346291
<b>Inspection date</b>	11 January 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Yvonne Victoria Facey
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Childminding

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### 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*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since 2007. She lives with her family in Sheffield. They are close to local shops, park and other amenities. Minded children have the use of the whole of the downstairs area and bathroom and study on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden which is safe for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children. There are currently two children on roll.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean home where they learn the importance of good hygiene routines. The childminder prompts children to wash their hands at appropriate times. Children are provided with their own towel and flannel but they are encouraged to bring a toothbrush. This encourages them to take responsibility for their own well-being. Children's health is promoted as the childminder implements effective hygiene procedures to minimise the risk of infection. She

ensures that she wears gloves to protect herself and the children from cross infection and disposes of nappies hygienically. Toys and equipment are cleaned regularly and good food hygiene practices are in place.

Children's nutritional health is encouraged and promoted well. The childminder takes account of the wishes of parents to meet each child's dietary requirements and ensure their individual needs are met. Children have a healthy diet because the childminder is very clear about healthy eating and provides varied and nutritious meals and snacks. For example, the children always have a choice of fruit and vegetables for their snack. They have access to plenty of drinks throughout the day. Children are beginning to learn the importance of healthy eating through a variety of ways promoted by the childminder. For example, they talk about and choose healthy food when they go shopping.

Children enjoy a range of outdoor activities which contribute to their good health and physical development. They use a variety of equipment which helps to improve their physical skills. For instance, wheeled toys, a trampoline in the garden and large equipment at the park. The children enjoy regular walks in the community and other outings where they can get fresh air and exercise.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Risks have been effectively identified and minimised by the childminder, which means children can play and move around her home safely. The childminder talks to the children about how to keep themselves safe, such as how to cross the road safely and holding hands while on walks. A fire evacuation procedure is in place, although it has not been practised with the children. As a result, children are not fully familiar with the procedure.

The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and is aware of her role and responsibilities. She is aware of the potential signs of abuse or neglect and is clear on the action she needs to take in order to protect children from harm. She has completed the safeguarding training and has all the correct documents and procedures in place.

Children can reach their toys and equipment very easily, helping to stimulate their interest and develop independence. Equipment is safe for children to use and are effectively maintained in good condition. For example, the childminder checks them on a regular basis and disposes of any damaged items. Children are encouraged to put toys away after use, promoting their personal responsibility and safety.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities. For example, they enjoy baking buns, play dough and singing rhymes. Other activities are planned outside the home such as visits to toddler groups and libraries. The children relate to others very well. They share and play harmoniously and include adults in their play. The childminder shows an interest in everything that the children say and do and naturally enters into conversations with them. She asks questions that stimulate their thinking and imaginations. Children concentrate on their given activity and are pleased with their own achievements. For instance, children show their excitement as they roll play dough into a ball to make a snowman.

Children settle well in the setting and become confident in their routines. They enjoy their activities and interact well with the childminder building good relationships with her and developing confidence. She is fully aware of the interests and abilities of individual children. This information is used to plan activities for individual children. The childminder has begun using observations and recording children's progress to enhance children's learning.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are caring towards one another, they become aware of their own and others needs through discussion. They are able to access resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity. They are cared for as individuals as the childminder communicates effectively with parents about their needs which ensures they receive consistent care. Parents are provided with a written update of activities their children have enjoyed. This is in addition to the verbal exchange of information, which takes place every day. Written policies help them to be clear about the service offered, which includes the complaints procedure.

The childminder is aware that some children may have learning difficulties or disabilities. She understands the importance of working in partnership with parents and with other professionals to promote the welfare and development of the child. Children are praised for their efforts and good behaviour, they learn to treat each other kindly and share. The childminder manages behaviour calmly and gives children plenty of praise and encouragement. Simple explanations and boundaries are in place which are set according to children's age and understanding.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The childminder has good knowledge of the requirements of her registration which is shared with parents. All the required documentation is in place and fully completed, which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being. Children are cared for in a well organised setting and the premises are used creatively to provide plenty of space to play and easy access to resources. The childminder ensures she remains within her ratio and that her register is up to date and accurate at all times. The children feel at home and at ease in their environment where they have a clear routine and planned activities. The childminder has written policies and procedures that give helpful information to parents and are regularly reviewed.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since registration, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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.

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

## WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

### The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that children regularly practise the evacuation procedure.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)