

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY152862
<b>Inspection date</b>	20/11/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Diane Lynn Turner
<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 2002. She lives with her husband and two children aged 11 and eight-years-old, in a detached house, which is situated in a village on the outskirts of York. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding and there is an enclosed garden at the rear of the house for outdoor play. A pet rabbit is kept at the home.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association, has a level 3 qualification in childminding practice and is an accredited member of the local childminder network. She is registered on both the Early Years and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is currently minding seven children, four of whom are in the early years age group. Their attendance is a mix of both full and part-time places.

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

The childminder provides a very welcoming, relaxed and calm environment where high priority is given to meeting children's individual needs. Children are kept safe at all times and are offered a very good range of activities both inside and outside the home which ensures they make good progress in their learning and development. Very good relationships are established and maintained with the parents and carers and links are being developed with other settings the children also attend, such as the local school and pre-school. The childminder is an active member of the local partnership group and shows a good commitment to continually developing her service and improving the outcomes for children.

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

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

- provide more opportunities for children to learn about the wider world and diversity
- continue to develop the systems for self evaluation.

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

The childminder's home is well organised which enables the children to move about freely and safely. They are very much at home and are able to make independent choices from the good selection of resources. For example, they particularly enjoy choosing books from the extensive range that is available. The childminder gives high priority to maintaining a safe environment, with detailed risk assessments being carried out on the home and for outings. Safety equipment, such as smoke detectors are checked regularly to ensure they remain in working order and the childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of safeguarding children and of protecting them from possible abuse. All of the required

documentation is in place. This is well organised and maintained in a confidential manner which means the service is managed safely and efficiently.

All children are welcome to attend the setting and good systems are in place to find out about their individual needs. There are excellent settling in procedures for new children, with parents stating that they really value and appreciate the pre-placement visits and the childminder's welcoming and caring approach, which helps to allay any anxieties they may have. They also receive good information via the welcome pack. This includes all the policies and procedures for the service and information, such as the weekly menu is also displayed for them.

The childminder has effective systems in place to monitor and evaluate her service, with the parents and children being fully involved in the process. She regularly sends out questionnaires to gain their opinions and as a member of the childminder network she receives regular quality assurance visits from the co-ordinator. Recommendations from the previous inspection have been successfully implemented and the childminder has identified areas she wants to improve in the future. She has started to use a self evaluation form but this is not yet fully implemented.

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

Children are very happy in the care of the childminder. She demonstrates an extremely kind and caring approach and gives equal attention to promoting their learning and their welfare. They are kept healthy because she provides nutritious meals and snacks; helps them to become independent in their self-care and provides valuable opportunities for them to benefit from fresh air and physical exercise. As a result, they demonstrate good physical skills as they ride wheeled toys and play games of football and hopscotch. They have good opportunities to learn about keeping themselves safe. For example, they learn about road safety when out in the community, how to use a knife safely as they butter their own bread and how to dress appropriately for the weather.

The childminder pays very good attention to giving the children freedom to follow their interests and to initiate their own play and learning and she effectively supports and extends their learning through conversation. For example, by discussing the direction of the wind as they blow bubbles outside. The children are well occupied and very interested in the activities. They particularly enjoy role play as they pretend to be doctors and play with toy dogs, and they show a great interest in number. They also enjoy many learning experiences outside the home. For example, they learn about nature as they collect leaves and acorns and they enjoy the experience of travelling by bus as they visit the local farm shop to feed the hens and learn about sourcing food. They show care and consideration for each other and the childminder's pet rabbit and are keen to ensure any new children are made welcome.

The childminder keeps very good written records of the activities she provides and the progress the children make in their learning journeys. However, she does not

provide sufficient opportunities for them to learn about diversity and the wider world.

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