

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY255152
<b>Inspection date</b>	21/11/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Rosemary Beyer
<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 February 2003. She lives with her family in a semi-detached house in Acomb, a suburb of the City of York. There are shops, parks and a school within walking distance of the home. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding plus the bathroom and toilet on the first floor. There is an enclosed rear garden available for outdoor play. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently seven children on roll. Children may attend for full time sessions, although the majority currently attend part time. The childminder provides care before and after school, and during school holidays for children who attend Poppleton Road Primary School.

The childminder is a qualified early years primary school teacher and has completed the Quality First, quality assurance scheme. She is a member of the National Childminding Association. She is also a member of the Acomb Childminding group, the Poppleton Road School partnership, and the York Quality First network.

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

The childminder uses her excellent knowledge of each child's individual needs to ensure all aspects of their welfare and learning are promoted with great success. Children are safe, secure and settled. They enjoy learning and are curious about their local area and the world in general. Partnerships with parents, local schools, playgroups and other agencies ensure all the children's needs are met very well. The children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals, whatever their age, ability and starting points. Future development of the setting is planned by comprehensive self-evaluation to highlight priorities, and any resulting changes ensure continuous improvement.

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

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- include notification of Ofsted in the procedure for allegations made against the childminder.

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

The childminder has a very good understanding of her responsibilities in providing high quality care and education for the children. She has developed clear policies and procedures to ensure the safe and efficient management of the setting and that children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted.

Parents receive comprehensive information about their child's care and progress, with daily diaries for babies and development records covering all aspects of their learning. They are able to comment and record achievements made at home. The childminder provides ideas for them to support their children's learning, so they feel involved and have a good understanding of their child's progress. The childminder has developed good relationships, with parents, other childminders, the local school and playgroup, and the local childcare network to ensure the children's needs are met very effectively.

The childminder has made excellent use of self-evaluation since she was registered, to monitor her practice and identify improvements. Parents' and children's views have been taken into account, although there have been no suggestions made by them, only very positive comments about the care and education their children receive. The childminder has recently started to use an on-line procedure, and as a result, she identified concerns about safety with the amount of toys in the playroom. Therefore, a picture book of toys has been produced so children can choose from the extensive range of resources available, in addition to those already on display.

Comprehensive, well-written policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed to ensure the setting is safely and efficiently managed. Parents receive copies in their packs to ensure they understand how the children's welfare is safeguarded by the sick child policy and the child protection procedures. Although notification of Ofsted is not included specifically in the procedure relating to allegations against the childminder, she knows it is a significant event and must be reported.

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

Children are making very good progress in their learning as the childminder has an excellent knowledge of the early learning goals. Information about children's achievements, interests and needs is used very effectively to support their next steps. The childminder provides an excellent range of learning opportunities through appropriate themes and activities, all tailored to meet the children's individual needs. She has a very good knowledge of the code of practice for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and ensures they are well supported if necessary.

The environment is very well planned to promote communication and literacy skills, and although no children with English as an additional language are currently being cared for, procedures and activities are in place to meet their needs. Children are developing a very good interest in books, and as a result of her evaluation, the childminder has improved their access. The childminder supports children's use of language very successfully through conversation. They are confident speakers, happily talking during the inspection to discuss activities they have enjoyed and what they want to do. The post office activity provided an excellent opportunity to develop children's vocabulary, and physical skills when creating the post box, writing letters and then sticking on stamps.

Children learn about the importance of good hygiene practice, fresh air and a healthy diet to stay fit and well. They enjoy eating the vegetables and fruit they have grown in the garden, and like to try new things. Very good use is made of the outside space and also the local parks to develop children's physical skills,. They move around confidently and safely both inside and outside the home. Individual towels and flannels and good handwashing procedures, with notices to remind them, ensure cross infection is minimised.

The children are very confident, settled and comfortable with the childminder. They select resources and toys they wish to use from the wide range available, and are eager to participate in activities on offer. During the activities they cooperate well, taking turns and sharing. They have a good understanding of the house rules and their behaviour is very good. They are also developing excellent manners.

## 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>	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	1

### Quality and standards

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

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.