

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY372447
<b>Inspection date</b>	25/11/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Geneen Yvonne Hulse-Brown
<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 May 2008. She lives with her family in a semi detached property in Sheffield. Local schools, shops and parks are within walking distance. The childminder has two children, aged 17 months old and 14 years old.

Children have free access to the downstairs rooms, including the kitchen and lounge with upstairs access to the bathroom and main bedroom for sleeping. There is a fully enclosed decked area to the side of the property for outdoor play. Premises are accessible via three steps to the path and three steps to the front door. The family have a dog.

The childminder is registered to care for five children under the age of eight years old and is presently caring for three children in the early years age group and one child in the later years age group. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory part of the Childcare Register and voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

The childminder is an active member of the local childminder support group and meets regularly with fellow childminders. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

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

The childminder's good knowledge of the children in her care, ensures that she plans a broad range of activities that stimulates and challenges them. Children enthusiastically enjoy many opportunities based on their individual interests to explore, undertake new experiences and extend their independence. Parents and carers share good quality information with the childminder, that effectively contributes to meeting children's individual needs. The childminder demonstrates a high commitment to improving her provision through self-evaluation, reflective practice and training.

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

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

- consider how links will be established with other settings providing for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage
- continue to review policies and procedures to meet changes to requirements.

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

A very good awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework enables the childminder to plan challenging activities and undertake comprehensive

observations for all minded children. The childminder effectively uses self-evaluation, to clearly identify good practice and for recognising areas for improvement. She demonstrates a high commitment to personal training and development, as she is currently studying for her National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at level 3 in childcare and education. Use of the library, internet and attendance on short courses, helps her to consolidate her knowledge and understanding.

Parents and carers have developed strong relationships with the childminder, which ensures consistent and effective sharing of children's progress and achievements. The childminder completes very detailed observations of the children, with examples of their work and photographs of them absorbed in a wide variety of activities. She has established very good systems to share information, using record sheets and email as agreed with parents. A detailed handbook containing policies, procedures, contracts and all required completed permission forms, ensures that parents and carers are well informed and updated regarding changes. Meticulously completed records for all children ensures a consistent approach to their care, learning and development.

The childminder is an active member of the local childminder support network, meeting regularly with fellow childminders, to review and develop their practice. She has started to develop her working relationship with school when she collects older children, passing on appropriate information to parents at the end of the day. Younger children do not attend any other provision, therefore systems have not been set up, to show how they will work together to support children's all round development.

The childminder demonstrates a strong understanding of her role and responsibilities in safeguarding children, therefore children are well protected. A comprehensive range of policies and procedures effectively supports working practices and they are under review, as they do not all reflect the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

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

Children excitedly become involved in a wide range of fun and interesting experiences. They play happily together and alongside each other, as they explore their environment. Creatively planned routines and activities, builds on children's ideas and extends their thinking, as they make active choices and decisions. Resources are easily accessible in boxes at floor level, offering many opportunities for them to pick what to play with. The childminder sits with the children on the floor, as she successfully guides them to learn new skills and experiences. Comprehensive activity plans based on all areas of learning, effectively promotes children's development.

Children babble together as they look at books, sharing stories with visitors with increasing confidence. The childminder skilfully introduces new vocabulary in everyday activities and play. She uses numbers, as they build towers of four pots of dough and counts how many balls they have, when playing outside. Children are

developing early problem solving skills, as they work out which cups balance on each other.

Children's physical development flourishes, as they play outdoors in all weathers. They help put on coats and hats to play football and in the playhouse, negotiating their way around obstacles with increasing skill. Many outings, to the park and further away, increases children's understanding of their environment. They explore all around them with curiosity and interest. Children demonstrate good levels of self esteem, due to consistent praise and encouragement from their childminder. They are sensitively reminded to share toys and wait their turn with the dance mat. The childminder continues to develop photographic evidence, to show children's progress and achievements.

Children learn about healthy eating, as they sit together enjoying home cooked meals and enjoy fruit for snack. They are developing good hand eye coordination, as they attempt to feed themselves and get their own cups, when they are thirsty. Children's well-being is successfully promoted, as the childminder completes comprehensive risk assessments, to maintain a safe and secure environment for children. They develop a sound understanding of how to keep safe, as they practice what to do in the event of a fire. The childminder demonstrates a very good understanding of the needs and abilities of all children in her care, successfully adapting activities appropriate to their ages and stages of development.

## 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 registration.

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.