

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	312427
<b>Inspection date</b>	24/11/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Cathryn Parry
<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 was registered in 1995. She lives with her husband, grown-up son and twin sons aged 17 years. They live in the residential area of East Boldon in South Tyneside. The childminder's home is accessed by the front door. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom on the first floor of the childminder's home are used for childminding. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of six children aged under eight years at any one time. She also cares for children aged over eight years. There are currently 11 children on roll. Of these, three are in the early years age range. The childminder cares for children on weekdays from 08.00 to 18.00 during term time. She has completed a relevant training course and holds a current paediatric first aid certificate. The childminder takes the children to and collects them from the local school and attends the local parent and toddler group.

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

The childminder offers a warm and friendly welcome to all children and their families. She makes available a wide range of stimulating resources and experiences to enable all children to make progress. The childminder demonstrates a very positive attitude to providing an inclusive environment. This includes being very willing to link with other professionals, such as speech therapists, to meet individual needs well. She understands the need to keep abreast of changes and has undertaken relevant initial training to meet the new requirements. In practice, she regularly evaluates the care and education provided, to ensure continual improvements are made and standards remain high.

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

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

- further develop systems for planning activities and recording children's progress
- further develop systems for self-evaluation.

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

The childminder carefully looks at the service she provides to enable her to attend relevant training, plan activities and experiences, and increase resources as needed. She clearly discusses how this takes place on a daily basis to ensure all children enjoy their time with her and make good progress. However, she does not have a formal structure to this process or any written evidence. She has positively addressed recommendations raised at the previous inspection. This has resulted in a range of natural resources being provided and a system devised to ensure written details of individual children are easily accessible when on outings. The

childminder has attended safeguarding training and demonstrates a sound understanding of associated issues. Consequently, children are well protected. Effectively implemented risk assessments are in place both for inside the childminder's home and when the children go on outings. This reduces the opportunities for accidents to occur.

Good relationships with parents have been made which help children to feel safe and secure. The childminder speaks to them on a daily basis to ensure they are fully informed of the activities their children have enjoyed. She also gives them the opportunity to have a written diary if they wish. The childminder encourages parents to be involved in their children's learning, this includes some parents arriving early to see their children playing and discussing any particular interests to follow up at home. She has built strong links with the nursery, with the teacher giving her a copy of the termly themes. This enables her to complement these at home. An example of this is where the children are looking at autumn at nursery, so the childminder took them for a walk to explore the leaves.

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

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The wide range of resources provided ensure each of the areas of learning covered by the early learning goals are effectively addressed. Through discussion the childminder clearly explains how she plans activities and experiences for each of the children in her care. She talks about offering more complex activities to help them progress and visiting a wide range of age appropriate places of interest. This enables children to learn whilst having fun. However, there is no written evidence of this planning. The childminder has recently devised new individual developmental files for the children, including brief observations and photographs. She has started to link some of these to the early learning goals. This system is in its very early stages of development and is not fully effective yet. A very good balance of child-centred and adult-led activities is provided. The childminder deploys herself well to support children's activities. The children really enjoy using their imaginations as they wrap the baby doll in the blanket for her bottle of milk and relish playing with the trains and track. A wide range of books are available, which the children enjoy looking at independently or share with the childminder who is animated and enthusiastic. Effective use is made of the local area, giving children a breadth of opportunities. Examples of this are where they visit the library and bowling alley. Children's play opportunities are maximised through the effective organisation of space, time and resources.

Children enjoy regular opportunities for fresh air, which contributes positively to their overall good health. Their well-being is enhanced through effectively planned opportunities for large physical play either outdoors or with visits to local amenities. Appetising light meals and snacks, such as jacket potatoes with cheese, fresh fruit and yogurts, ensure the children receive the nourishment necessary for their growth and physical development. Children are beginning to understand simple health and hygiene practices, including younger children cleaning their teeth. All relevant documentation with regard to health, including specific dietary needs and consent forms are in place and up-to-date. These positively safeguard

children's well-being. Children's knowledge about personal safety is nurtured as the childminder discusses how to cross the road safely using the pedestrian crossing and their participation in termly fire evacuation practises. These positively contribute to children developing a sense of danger and how to keep themselves safe. Children develop a sensitive awareness of diversity and an understanding of the needs of others. This is achieved through a range of activities and resources which promote a positive outlook of the wider world. Children behave well and are beginning to understand the consequences of unacceptable behaviour to others. The childminder has good strategies in place for managing behaviour, which are appropriate to the children's ages and stages of development and understanding. Her confident approach to equal opportunities actively contributes to children's positive attitudes to the wider community. This is complemented with access to a selection of resources, including books and dolls.

## 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.