

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	308272
<b>Inspection date</b>	25/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Janet, Elizabeth Singleton
<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 March 1995 and lives with her husband and three adult sons, within the town of Great Harwood. The facilities available for childminding include a dining room, which is an activity room, a lounge, a kitchen and an outdoor enclosed area.

The childminder is registered to care for six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently caring for four children in this age group. This provision is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

The childminder is a qualified Nursery Nurse and has regular contact with other local childminders. She regularly attends parent and toddler groups with the minded children with parental permission. The family has a dog.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder provides a very welcoming environment for children and ensures they can make choices about their play in a safe and secure home. They settle well and are actively engaged in their play as they make good progress in their learning. The childminder has a good understanding of their individual needs and ensures all children are actively engaged as she recognises their uniqueness. Relationships with parents are good and they are kept informed of their child's progress. The childminder is very proactive at seeking training to continue to develop her practice and is aware of the strengths and weaknesses of her provision through the evaluation of her service and the plans in place to address any weaknesses. Required documentation is in place but some is not up to date.

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

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

- ensure the next steps for children are clearly identified in regard to the intended learning outcomes
- ensure all documentation is up to date in regard to the welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

The childminder plans her home to allow children to move freely and confidently through the setting, changing activities and choosing good quality resources. The childminder is committed to helping children make progress and has a learning journal to monitor their progress and development. She has produced written

policies and procedures which are reflected in practice and are regularly reviewed, however some are not linked to the welfare requirements of the EYFS. The childminder has a positive approach to health and safety as she ensures all fire equipment and safety features are in place to safeguard children. Children are further safeguarded as the childminder demonstrates her good understanding of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and is confident of the action to take should she be concerned. She provides children with a healthy balanced diet taking into account the dietary requirements of each child.

The relationship with parents is well established with a good two way flow of information. The childminder shares good quality information with them including her policies and procedures. She invites them into her home to settle the children and to complete all personal information about the child to identify their individual needs. She is committed to improving her service and has a positive approach to the continuous development of her provision, for example, seeking training and linking with other childcare providers and support groups. The recommendations from the last inspection have been positively addressed which has a positive impact on the outcomes for children. For example, ensuring the outdoor area is safe and she has increased her understanding and knowledge of what to do in the event of identifying a child with a learning difficulty or disability.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements which enables her to plan a good balance of adult-led and child-led activities. Children delight in playing with the train track as they count together and use mathematical language, for example, long and big developing their mathematical skills. They enjoy a warm and caring relationship with the childminder who supports them as they play. They sit together on the sofa reading a book and singing lovely songs, taking great pleasure in each others company. She makes sure children feel valued and are fully included by changing activities to suit the individual needs of the children attending and making sure that all are actively involved. The children are good communicators as they use language to organise their play.

The childminder completes good observations on the children and uses this information to plan for children's next steps in their learning. However, the intended learning outcome of the next step is not clearly identified to ensure the challenges set for children are appropriate. The childminder positively interacts with the children and uses the junk material to make a trumpet and a pair of binoculars from cardboard tubes. The children were enthralled with this lovely, spontaneous activity. The childminder has a good awareness of when children are starting to become bored and changes the play opportunities to keep them motivated and occupied. This positive approach enables children to become active learners and independent in their play. Questioning by the childminder is very effective and lots of praise, chatter and talk about what they are doing. As a result children think about what they are doing and have meaningful conversations about events in their life.

The childminder is committed to providing good quality care for children and to effectively promoting the five outcomes for all. Overall, the children benefit from the very positive interaction and the activities and resources provided for them. They learn about being healthy as they enjoy a balanced diet, access their own drinks and take part in physical activities. They learn to mix and increase their social skills as they attend the toddler and childminder groups. Children make good progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities towards the early learning goals. This approach assists children in developing those skills necessary for their economic well-being.

## 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.