

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	251922
<b>Inspection date</b>	23/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Patricia Webb

<b>Type of setting</b>	Childminder
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## 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 1994. She lives with her husband, 11 year old child and two adult children in the Pendeford area of Wolverhampton. There are shops, schools and a library within walking distance. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding, including toilet facilities and the front door is accessed via one step up from the flat drive. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play, laid out on one level to patio and lawn. The family has a cat as a pet.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years of age at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding two children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register as well as the Early Years Register.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. The childminder provides a warm and very welcoming family orientated environment for all children and their families. She is developing her implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage in order to meet children's individual needs and promote their learning and development. The childminder is attentive to children's needs and creates a friendly and familiar routine enabling children to feel settled and secure. Partnerships with parents and carers are very positive and details are recorded from information obtained from them about their child's stages of development. This enables the childminder to plan and deliver a range of activities and experiences which encourages children to participate in at their own level. The system for reflecting on the effectiveness of the provision is being developed and the childminder has a realistic view of the key strengths and areas for improvement within her service.

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

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

- develop the assessment process to clearly link to planning the next steps in children's development
- review the risk assessments to include any outings and trips.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- display the registration certificate when minding is taking place (Documentation).

23/03/2009

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

Children benefit from the enthusiastic and caring approach offered by the childminder in nurturing and guiding children's development. They are happy and settled in her very well-organised home, able to access a wide range of good quality resources as they make decisions about their activity and play freely. The children are safe and secure in the setting, understanding about their own safety as they participate in fire drills and tidy away toys and resources when necessary. Children know the safety guidelines well as the childminder takes time to gently reinforce boundaries. For example, a young toddler knows must not go into the kitchen area, but to stand at the edge of the carpet area with arms outstretched, waiting for the adult to come to him. Whilst risk assessments are carried out formally and through on-going visual checks, the childminder has not yet included reference to the trips and outings undertaken. She does however, undertake many of the longer outings in the company of another registered childminder for added support and has clear procedures in place for taking a first aid kit and all necessary contact numbers in the case of an emergency. Children are fully safeguarded as the childminder has a thorough knowledge of the procedures to be followed should she have any protection concerns about a child in her care.

Such information is shared with parents and carers through the very well-worded set of policies and procedures ensuring that they are fully informed of the care their children receive. Attractive formats are being developed for recording children's attainment and achievement in their progress and the childminder has clearly linked these to the areas of learning and the aspects set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The assessments do not as yet provide guidance for planning the next steps in children's progress although the childminder is able to articulate where she sees children moving on to their next achievement. These records are available for parents and carers to see any time and they express much satisfaction with the care their children receive. The childminder is developing the self-evaluation process to take account of parents' and carers' views through effectively composed questionnaires and written testimonials. Whilst new parents are shown the registration certificate in the childminder's working portfolio, the certificate is not freely on display during the hours of operation as required under the conditions of registration.

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

Children are making good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of their development. They are offered an interesting and enjoyable range of activities that cater for all aspects of learning indoors and outside. The childminder uses her knowledge of the individual children and their stages of development to ensure that activities are planned to help children make progress. For example, a child honing early walking skills delights in the large open space in the safe and secure garden and their achievements are celebrated and shared with parents and carers through well-annotated photographs. Older children take great pleasure in recognising themselves and others in the photographs and skilful questioning by the childminder enables them to recall activities and describe their pleasure, such

as when walking along the canal and feeding the ducks and visiting a nearby farm.

Children's good health is promoted through effective health and hygiene procedures. They are cared for comfortably should they be taken ill and parents express a confidence in knowing that they would be contacted immediately if necessary. Children wash their hands at appropriate times in their day, with older children knowing about getting rid of germs for example, when preparing to have their snacks and lunch. They enjoy healthy and nutritious snacks and meals, tucking in to tasty sandwiches of their own choice made from wholemeal bread and knowing that this is good for them. Children's dietary requirements and preferences are discussed with parents and carers and adhered to ensuring children are healthy and their welfare is promoted.

Children benefit from the appropriate levels of involvement from the childminder in their play and activity. She intuitively knows when to join in and extend children's learning and communication skills and when to step back and allow children to take their play in their chosen direction. For instance, 'small-world' play becomes a detailed activity for children as they create a wedding scenario and talk about the bride and groom and all of the guests arriving at the church. This discussion is extended by the childminder who introduces a wider vocabulary to the child and acknowledges the child's contribution to the play. Later, all are invited to join a child on the aeroplane created on the floor from the large cushions and conversation is developed to discuss speed, take off and the need to fasten seat belts when flying. Such activity enables children to learn about their world and develops their self esteem as their imagination and creativity are fostered. Close cuddles are enjoyed when settling for a story as the childminder skilfully manages children of differing ages and abilities, able to maintain their interest in the story in different ways, sometimes with additional props, such as a favourite hand puppet. They enjoy a wealth of activities outdoors, learning to respect and value the diversity of their community as they visit venues and shops in the local area and undertake long energetic walks along the canal. This is also supported indoors by access to activities and resources which promote positive images of the differing needs of people in society.

## 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

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

## **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.