

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	251915
<b>Inspection date</b>	24/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Patricia Webb
<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 1993. She lives with her husband and two adult children in the Fordhouses area of Wolverhampton. There are local shops, a school and a library within walking distance. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding purposes including toilet facilities. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play. The property is accessed by a step to the front door from a flat drive and an internal step up into the property. The rear garden is laid out on one level to a patio and lawn.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may in the early years age group. There are currently three children in this age group. Care is also offered to children aged over five years. The provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder knows the children well and provides a welcoming and inclusive setting for all. Children develop a positive attitude to diversity and build confidence in their abilities with support and encouragement for the childminder. Processes are being developed to evaluate the provision in relation to children's welfare, learning and development. The childminder liaises effectively with parents to share relevant information on a daily basis. However, some legal requirements are not met with regard to first aid and risk assessments.

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

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

- develop systematic observations and assessments of each child's achievements in order to identify and support children in the next steps in their developmental progress
- develop methods for involving parents in children's continuous learning and development
- extend the systems for evaluating the quality of the provision and its impact on outcomes for children
- continue to improve knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

- complete an approved paediatric first aid training course (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 24/03/2009
- maintain a written record of the risk assessment 24/03/2009

clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Documentation).

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

The childminder has a sound knowledge of child protection issues and her role in safeguarding children, sharing this with parents who are informed of her duty of care to act in the best interests of the child at all times. Parents also have access to other policies and procedures detailing the operation of the setting and the organisation of their child's care and are being introduced to the Early Years Foundation Stage as the framework used by the childminder to plan and provide activities designed to promote learning and development. The childminder is developing the observations and assessment of children's progress but has not yet started to link this to preparing for next steps in their development. The evaluation process for assessing how effective the provision is in promoting outcomes for children are in their infancy, although, the childminder has a realistic view of the service she offers and how she meets the needs of the children and their families.

Children are generally safe and secure in the childminder's care. However, limited awareness of new requirements under Early Years Foundation Stage means that written risk assessments are not completed. Although, visual checks are carried out daily, issues such as the use of the large trampoline in the rear garden have not been fully assessed to identify possible hazards and this leaves children at risk of harm. Whilst the childminder has a sound knowledge of managing minor accidents and administering first aid, the current certificate has expired. The childminder has accessed a course which she is due to undertake shortly.

The childminder ensures that most of the documents required for the safe management of the provision are in place and are satisfactorily maintained. Settling in procedures and discussions with parents help the childminder to get to know the children well. Individual needs are met and the environment is organised to offer children choice and shelving is used in the large rear lounge to display toys and resources. The childminder sets out favourite toys in the lounge, so they are able to access them freely and make independent selections.

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

The childminder's home is appropriately organised. The premises are clean and well maintained and arranged to enable children to make choices about their play and to develop their independence. They enjoy moving around the spacious environment indoors and outside, able to use the 'indoor bike' to hone their early skills in pedalling and steering and then progress to larger bikes in the garden. They are learning about their world and beginning to be aware of how to care for their environment. Much discussion takes place with some older children as they recall finding a frog when clearing the garden and decide where best to put it. Great fun was had when the recent snow came as a great surprise to some

younger children as it was their first experience and time was given to outdoor play.

They use their imagination well in their own-initiated play as they create dens and make tents from fabric draped around the furniture. Books and musical instruments are effectively used to promote children's enjoyment and concentration as they are introduced to the rhythm of records and music as part of early communication skills. They develop their self-help skills as they attend to their own personal hygiene of appropriate and benefit from the effective hygiene routines put in place by the childminder to reduce the risk of the spread of infection and manage any infectious outbreaks efficiently. Children are developing an awareness of their own safety as they practice road safety when walking to the park and local schools. They also understand why it is important to pick up toys and tidy away to prevent tripping hazards.

The childminder spends time interacting with the children, supervising their play to ensure their safety and encourage their learning further. Children's behaviour is managed sensitively and positively by the childminder. Effective strategies are employed to take account of children's ages and stages of development and are based upon praise, encouragement and distraction. Where children require further intervention, the childminder works closely with parents and others involved to ensure consistency of approach and provide secure boundaries for the children. Their health and well-being is well-promoted as the childminder takes account of their dietary needs when preparing and serving home-cooked meals made from fresh and nutritious ingredients, including fresh fruit and vegetables.

## 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>	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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.