

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY102073
<b>Inspection date</b>	12/05/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Hilary Mary Mckenning

<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 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 registered in 2002, previously to this, she was registered in London.

She lives with her husband and two children. The family live in Staincross near Barnsley. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding, along with the bathroom and play room on the first floor. The front garden, drive and rear garden are used as a facility.

The childminder may care for six children at any one time and is currently caring for 10 children on a part time basis. There are five children attending in the early years group. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and Barnsley Together. She supports Barnsley Choices and is a member of the board for the Barnsley Choices Partnership.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children's sense of belonging is fostered well though the warm, welcoming and homely atmosphere. Children are treated with equal concern and their individual needs are met well through personalised planning and assessment systems. Her excellent knowledge of each child's individual needs ensures that the childminder promote all aspects of children's welfare and learning successfully. The childminder recognises the value of continuous improvement and has successfully completed all recommendations raised at the last inspection and identified areas of further development. The childminder has a very good partnership with parents and takes time to develop a good understanding of children's individual needs to promote inclusive practice successfully.

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

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

- continue to develop assessment and recording systems to help children move to the next stage in their learning and to share with parents.
- further develop links with other providers of the early years foundation stage

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children and parents are warmly welcomed into the setting. The childminder knows the children in her care very well and liaises closely with parents therefore children's welfare needs are met effectively. The childminder is committed to the development and improvement of her practice. For example, she monitors and

evaluates her service through the use of the self-evaluation form. Records of children's assessments and photographs evidence her systematic approach to enhancing all aspects of children's care, learning and development. Parents are given a copy of all policies and procedures as well as any updated versions which ensure they are kept informed about the care their children receive. Parents also engage in daily verbal feedback along with written diaries for younger children. Although the childminder liaises with other providers delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage, this does not include information to promote the continuity of learning, and the planning of activities to ensure the progress of children's learning and care.

The childminder is enthusiastic and is committed to developing her knowledge and skills. She uses the written self-evaluation constructively to give her direction and to identify her strengths as well as areas to improve. She takes advantage of a variety of training opportunities available and has attended a range of courses including safeguarding. Children are very well protected as the childminder has excellent awareness of her role and responsibilities with regards to safeguarding children.

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

Children feel extremely secure, confident and very settled in the childminder's care. The purposely set out play room is used in a highly effective manner. All resources are of excellent quality, easily accessible and appropriate for children's stage of development. Children have easy access to the outdoor play area and confidently move between both areas. They experience all activities within these areas. A wealth of policies and procedures are in place, which are shared with parents and implemented exceedingly well in order to provide a very clear sense of purpose and direction and significantly enhance the care and learning of children. The safety of young children is the childminder's first priority. She completes visual risk assessments daily to ensure the premises are safe and secure and also records any action taken to minimise hazards. The premises are clean and well maintained. There are effective procedures in place to promote the health and safety of the children in her care such as a fire evacuation procedure that is practised routinely, and the sickness policy is shared with parents and adhered to at all times. Children are provided with a healthy well balanced range of meals and snacks that meet children's individual dietary needs. Daily menus are displayed using picture representation to ensure all children are aware of the food that is on offer each day. This practice is effective in promoting a good understanding of healthy eating.

Children access a wide range of activities to extend their play and independence within play areas. For older children, their starting points are clearly recorded and used to plan activities around their interests. The children are well behaved and are able to initiate and develop their own play. For example, children actively solve problems, as they recreate a puzzle using magnetic pictures and respond to the musical game joining in with the songs. Observations and assessments are maintained and are clearly linked to the early learning goals. However, children's next steps are not consistently used to inform planning. Therefore, records to track and plan each child's learning journey are not used to monitor children's welfare

and development, and their progression towards the early learning goals.

Children are very happy, content and are making good progress. They share a very warm and caring relationship with each other and the childminder. A special relationship has been formed with younger children and they eagerly join in activities. They are familiar with the play room and children independently count out the number of rollerball paint pens. Developmentally appropriate range of age related activities are offered to extend children's knowledge and learning in a variety of ways. For example, children are beginning to develop a sense of shape and texture as they explore different materials and play with different textures, such as pasta, as well as paint and play dough. Therefore, they are using their senses and movement to focus, reach and handle objects; encouraging exploration and development of their attention skills.

## 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?	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