

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY334759
<b>Inspection date</b>	23/03/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Elaine Marie McDonnell
<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 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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

## Description of the childminding

The childminder has been registered since July 2006. She lives with her partner and four children, who are aged 19, 17, 12 and six years old, in an established residential area of Grangetown in Cleveland. The home is close to local amenities, such as, shops, schools and a library. Most of the ground floor of the house is used for childminding purposes, plus the bathroom on the first floor. The conservatory is a designated play area and there is an enclosed rear garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time. She is registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register and may also care for children aged over eight years. There are currently nine children on roll, aged between six months and 13 years old, most of whom are cared for on a part-time basis. Some children are taken to and collected from local schools, or from their home. The family have two dogs and two tortoises, which minded children have supervised access to.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

A very warm and welcoming environment is provided for children. Inclusive practice is promoted and children's individual needs are well met. Most records and documentation required for the safe and efficient management of the provision are available. Although there is currently no effective system in place for the childminder to evaluate her provision, good progress and improvements have been made since the previous inspection. Children are making good progress in their development towards the early learning goals.

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

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

- keep a written record of complaints and their outcome. (Safeguarding and Welfare) (also applies to the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register)
- 23/04/2010

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

- implement a system of self-evaluation to support the continuous improvement of the provision.

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

Children's welfare is well safeguarded. Good safeguarding procedures are in place, and the childminder demonstrates a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. Effective procedures are in place to ensure that all adults having access to minded children are appropriately vetted. Good risk assessments have been conducted for the home, garden and outings and all relevant steps taken to reduce risks to children.

The environment is very warm and welcoming, with examples of children's art work attractively displayed. Resources are well deployed and children have good access to a varied range of toys and activities in the designated play room, and in the rear garden. The childminder has a positive attitude towards equality and diversity and ensures that all children are included and involved and that their individual needs are well met. Children have opportunities to gain awareness of the cultures and beliefs of others, and also have access to play materials which reflect diversity.

The childminder has a positive attitude towards personal development and has accessed additional training since the previous inspection. For example, she has attended courses relating to the Early Years Foundation Stage, first aid and safeguarding and promoting children's welfare. However, there is currently no effective system in place for the childminder to evaluate her provision in order to support continuous improvement. The recommendations from the previous inspection have been fully addressed, resulting in improved partnership working with parents and a more welcoming environment for children.

The childminder is establishing working partnerships with other settings where minded children also attend, for example, local primary schools. Relevant information is shared, with parents consent, to support consistency in children's learning. The childminder works well in partnership with parents. Parents are kept informed of their child's development and progress through regular discussions, and also have access to their child's individual learning folders. Parents receive useful written information about the provision, including policy and procedure documents and newsletters. An appropriate complaints procedure is in place and is effectively shared with parents, however, a record of complaints is not currently kept.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children**

The childminder observes and records children's development on a regular basis. Areas for future development are clearly identified, but the information is not always used to inform future planning. Children's interests and capabilities are taken into account when planning activities, and they are involved in decisions about outings and visits. Evidence indicates that children are making good progress towards the early learning goals.

Children are happy and settled in the childminders care and present themselves as feeling safe and secure. They are helped to learn about keeping themselves safe through regular discussions and routines. For example, children learn about road safety when out walking the dogs and are involved in regular fire drills. Good risk assessments ensure that children are kept safe on outings.

Children are encouraged to adopt healthy lifestyles. They receive a variety of nutritious and healthy meals and snacks and learn about the importance of a healthy diet. Meal times for babies are observed to be very enjoyable and sociable occasions. The spread of infection is well managed as good hygiene procedures are in place and are promoted with children. Children have regular opportunities for physical play both indoors and outdoors, and they discuss what effect exercise and a healthy diet has on their bodies.

Children have a good attitude towards learning and are keen to participate. They are given choices about what they want to play with and enthusiastically and confidently decide for themselves, which promotes their independence. Children also choose whether they want to play indoors or outdoors, of which they are allowed free and easy access between both. They are well behaved and the childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how to manage behaviour effectively.

The childminder supports children's learning well by being involved in their play and encouraging good communication skills. She demonstrates as having a very loving manner towards the children in her care and ensures that they have access to a wide range of play experiences to cover all areas of learning. Children's physical development is regularly promoted and they have access to electronic and programmable toys relevant to their stage of development, including lap top computers. Children's knowledge and understanding of the world is also well promoted as they are very involved in the care of the family pets. They also participate in recycling and local events, such as open days at the local fire station.

## 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*

### The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

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

<b>How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

### The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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## Annex B: the Childcare Register

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

Not Met (with actions)

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

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept). 23/04/2010

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept). 23/04/2010