

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	312433
<b>Inspection date</b>	22/01/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Jacqueline West
<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 was registered in 1991. She lives with her husband and adult child in a residential area of Marsden in South Shields. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There are no family pets. The childminder cares for children on weekdays from 7.30am to 6pm for weeks 48 of the year.

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 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. The childminder collects children from the local school and attends several toddler groups on a regular basis.

## **The overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment where good relationships have developed. Children enjoy their time with the childminder and focus well on chosen activities. Systems to monitor the children's learning are developing well. The range of experiences she provides, ensures children have the opportunity to make good progress. The childminder demonstrates a favourable attitude towards inclusion. She has a positive commitment to developing her practice to promote outcomes for children. The childminder has attended recent training and this has enabled her to make steady continuous progress. The required documentation is in place to effectively promote children's welfare.

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

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

- promote further outcomes for children by ensuring that all practitioners work together.

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

The childminder has attended recent safeguarding training. She demonstrates an appropriate understanding of her role with regard to safeguarding children and the procedures to follow if she had any concerns. Children's welfare is protected well as the childminder and other household members have had suitable checks completed. A suitable range of written policies and procedures reflect the settings practices well, including complaints and a sickness policy. Security is well maintained. Strict procedures are in place regarding the collection of children and

appropriate safety equipment is provided, such as a stair gate and fireguard. Appropriate risk assessments are implemented daily that reduce the risk of accidental injury.

The childminder demonstrates a genuine commitment to inclusion, she is very aware of children's individual needs and supports them accordingly. For example, she respects children who on occasions like to play alone. Children access good play opportunities through the effective organisation of space and resources. They move around confidently making individual choices and benefit from the close supervision of the childminder to extend their learning, for example, when completing puzzles, matching colours and counting. She works closely with parents from the start, this ensures that she is fully aware of and able to effectively support the children to promote their overall well-being. Information is updated to ensure the children remain happy and settled in her care. Parents can have access to the policies and procedures. They are encouraged to be involved in supporting their child's learning and development through daily discussions. Procedures for sharing information with other practitioners where a child receives care and education in more than one setting are in their infancy, and this has a negative impact on ensuring continuity of care.

Systems for self-evaluation are in place. The childminder recognises her strength as making children feel special and encouraging them to achieve to the best of their ability. She ensures continuous improvement through regular contact with the local authority coordinator, recent training and reading materials, such as the publication 'The nursery world'. The recommendation from the previous inspection has been met. The childminder is fully aware that should she wish to take children in a vehicle that she must have appropriate insurance cover.

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

The childminder has a sound understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements it well. She observes, monitors and records the children's learning through the use of photographs and written observations, which is closely linked to the EYFS. Children are very happy and clearly enjoy their time with the childminder. They have formed positive relationships. For example, a child enjoys building a track with the support of the childminder. Children are eager to participate in the activities provided, such as fitting play eggs into the box. They benefit from a flexible routine, including an effective balance of child-centred and adult-led activities.

The children are developing their social skills with the support of the childminder. They are taken to the local playgroups and soft play where they play alongside their peers. Children's communication skills are developing well, for example, the baby babbles continuously through play. Children's achievements and efforts are recognised and praised by the childminder. The childminder is a positive role model and has developed a sensitive approach to managing children's behaviour. She works closely with the parents and takes into account the children's individual needs and personal circumstances, this results in children's behaviour being good.

Children are provided with the opportunity to develop an awareness of diversity and an understanding of the needs of themselves and others. For example, they are encouraged to share, take turns and respect one another. A good range of equipment that promotes information and communication technology is available to support children's learning, such as musical equipment and programmable toys.

Children are welcomed into clean and well kept premises. They are able to explore safely using clean and well maintained resources; they alternate their activities as they wish which enhances their independence. Regular use of the garden and outings to the park extends children knowledge of the world while providing good opportunities to encourage children's physical development. Babies have ample space to crawl and the opportunity to pull themselves up on the furniture. All children are active or restful through choice and babies sleep in-line with their individual needs and parents' wishes. Healthy meals and snacks are provided including fruit and vegetables to further enhance children's overall well-being. Children are provided with age appropriate restraints when using a highchair at meal times and develop their independence by feeding themselves toast and a drink. The childminder's good relationship with parents and effective procedures, ensure children are cared for appropriately when ill. This reduces the risk of the spread of infection. All relevant documentation with regard to health, including specific dietary needs and consent forms are in place and up-to-date. These positively safeguard children's 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*

### 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	2

### 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	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
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	3
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:

- must keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 19/02/2010

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 compulsory Childcare Register section of the report (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children). 19/02/2010