

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	305813
<b>Inspection date</b>	16/02/2010
<b>Inspector</b>	Vivienne Dempsey
<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 1998. She lives with her two adult sons and younger son, aged 13 years old. The family live in a house in the Hartburn area of Stockton-on-Tees. The house is situated within easy distance of local amenities, including schools and shops. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding, as well as an upstairs bathroom. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The family have three pet cats.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. There are currently 15 children on roll, of which, seven are in the early years age range. The childminder takes and collects children from local schools. She is a member of the National Childminding Association and has a National Vocational Qualification level 3 in Early Years Care and Education.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder provides a welcoming environment for all children and their families. She shows a genuine commitment to ensuring that all children are fully included at the setting. All children are very happy and settled in the childminder's care. The childminder is keen to develop the service she provides and attends regular training, to develop her knowledge and skills. A good range of activities and resources are provided, which helps to promote children's learning and development towards the early learning goals. All of which helps to promote positive outcomes for all children.

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

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

- carry out a full risk assessment for each type of outing. (Safeguarding and welfare) 30/04/2010

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

- develop further systems for self-evaluation to drive and ensure continuous improvement, by clearly showing how views of parents and children are actively sought and acted on.

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

Children's safety is well promoted, as the childminder has a good understanding of procedures to follow to ensure children are safeguarded. This is supported with written policies and procedures for liaising with appropriate agencies, if she has concerns about a child's well-being. Written risk assessments are in place and daily checks are completed, which helps eliminate risks. A risk assessment is in place to cover all outings. However, a full risk assessment is not carried out for each type of outing, which does not fully safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This is a breach of regulation. Records for the safe and efficient management of the setting are maintained. For example, a daily record of the name of the children who are looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance is accurately maintained and records for the administration of medication are in place.

The childminder provides a safe and stimulating environment, where resources are easily accessible, enabling children to make choices and decisions about what they do. Children are making good progress in relation to their starting points and parents are pleased with the progress children make, as a result of the opportunities the childminder provides. The childminder provides a good range of resources and activities to develop children's understanding of different cultures, such as, celebrating a range of different festivals. The childminder works closely with the local authority advisor and other childminders to develop her practice. For example, gaining a grant from the local authority to develop her outdoor play equipment. She is able to assess her strengths and weaknesses and plans for future development are in place. This helps to drive improvement and promotes outcomes for all children. The childminder discusses the provision she provides with parents and uses their views to develop the service. However, systems to ensure parents and children are fully involved in the self-evaluation process are not always clear, which does not fully promote outcomes for all children.

Positive relationships with parents are well established, ensuring each child's needs are met. Parents are kept well informed about their child's care and achievements, for example, daily diaries and observations of children's development are shared with parents daily. This helps to keep parents up-to-date with timely and accurate information. Good links with other providers and agencies have been developed. For example, the childminder works closely with the cystic fibrosis team and physiotherapist, to meet the individual needs of children. All of which helps to promote and support children's achievement and well-being.

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

The childminder organises her setting well and ensures the environment is child orientated, to promote children's learning. She clearly knows their individual likes and interests and ensures resources are readily available for their arrival. Children have clearly developed warm and trusting relationships with the childminder, as they approach her with confidence and seek her to join in with their play. The

childminder clearly knows the children well and plans a range of fun and exciting activities, which cover all areas of learning and is based on their interests. Observations are used to plan for the next steps in children's learning. This ensures that they are making good progress towards the early learning goals. Development files are in place to follow children's development. These are shared with parents, keeping them informed of their child's progress.

Children have good opportunities to independently draw, write and make marks in their everyday play and activities. They also enjoy taking part in a range of creative activities. For example, they have fun making 'under the sea' pictures, using a variety of foam shapes and mark making resources. Children have regular access to the childminder's garden. They enjoy making dens, playing in the wooden wigwam and manoeuvring a range of wheeled vehicles. This helps to develop their physical skills, whilst they enjoy the fresh air. Children are beginning to develop their understanding of the natural world, as they go on nature walks in the local parks. A variety of fun and planned trips further supports children's understanding of the world around them. For example, visits to museums and trips to the beach. They are beginning to develop their skills for the future, as they use the computer and a range of interactive toys.

Children are helped to feel safe, because they take part in planned activities, such as, practising fire drills, discussing stranger danger and road safety is taught during outings. The childminder encourages children to adopt a healthy lifestyle. She works closely with parents to ensure healthy meals are provided and regular opportunities for exercise and fresh air are part of daily routines. Children have good opportunities to make friends and learn important rules, such as, sharing and being kind to each other, as they visit a variety of play groups.

## 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	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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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:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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