

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	312720
<b>Inspection date</b>	19/07/2010
<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 November 1999. She lives in the Guisborough area of Cleveland with her husband and their two sons who are aged 17 years and six years. The family have two cats which minded children have limited access to. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom on the first floor are used for childminding purposes. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for up to five children under eight years at any one time. There are currently 19 children on roll aged from seven months to 13 years, most are cared for on a part-time basis. She is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and of the Redcar and Cleveland Childminding Network. Level 3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development and completed an advanced apprenticeship in Children's Care, Learning and Development.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

All children are fully included and their individual care and learning needs are extremely well met. The childminder has developed exceptional partnerships with parents to ensure continuity of care and to keep them fully informed of their children's development and progress. She has an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and implements them successfully to promote outcomes for all children. The childminder works closely with other childminders to develop the provision provided and recognises the value of continuous improvement.

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

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- continuing to attend training to further promote an inclusive environment for all children.

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

The childminder attends regular training and has a very good understanding of safeguarding children issues and procedures, which helps to protect children. She provides a very happy, stimulating and welcoming environment, in which children's welfare is successfully promoted. An extensive range of policies and procedures is in place to help protect children's safety, which are available to parents, keeping

them informed of the service provided. The required records are maintained and stored appropriately for the safe and efficient management of the setting. Comprehensive risk assessments are in place and the childminder regularly checks all areas of the home, garden and outings. This enables the children to move around safely and freely. The childminder has highly effective systems in place to monitor the provision. Her evaluation of the service is insightful and rigorous and she has taken active steps to involve the parents, children and other childminders in the process. Her keen and proactive approach ensures outcomes for children are extremely well promoted.

Excellent links have been developed with parents and partners. This enables the childminder to share a wide range of information with them, keeping them informed of the provision provided. For example, newsletters are given to parents regularly to inform them of activities children will be taking part in. All parents receive a 'parent pack' on registration and children's development files are shared with parents on a regular basis, which helps to keep parents informed of children's progress towards the early learning goals. Furniture, equipment and resources are of a very high quality and suitable for the ages of children to support their learning and development. The learning environment is conducive to learning and safety; it is carefully looked after and well suited to its purpose. Children clearly benefit and thrive as a result of the childminder's care and dedication.

The childminder has an exceptional knowledge of each child's backgrounds and needs. A wide range of resources and activities are provided to promote children's understanding of differences. The childminder is a member of a special needs support group, helping her to provide an extremely inclusive environment for all children. She attends regular training to update her already good knowledge and skills on a regular basis. However, the childminder stated that she would benefit from a much wider range of training to further promote equality and inclusion for all children.

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

The childminder has an extremely good understanding of Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements. She is fully aware of children's individual needs and interests because she has very good systems in place for observation, assessment and planning. This ensures children make very good progress towards the early learning goals. She actively seeks information from parents regarding children's previous learning and uses this knowledge to provide a stimulating learning environment, which meets the individual learning needs of all children.

Children enjoy playing with water; they confidently talk about full and empty, developing their problem, reasoning and numeracy skills. They have fun with musical instruments using water to make different sounds. Children enjoy playing with the farm animals in the garden; further developing interests from home after children visited a local farm with their parents. This helps to link learning at home and the setting. Children enjoy sharing familiar stories, such as the very busy

spider, and search the garden for spider webs and become very excited when they find one. This helps to develop their early reading skills and their understanding of the world around them. They visit the local woods to make dens and shelters, sharing ideas and working as a team to complete them. They have great fun pond dipping and learning about mini-beasts.

All children show a strong sense of security and feel safe within the setting. They are very well behaved and are very caring towards each other. Children take part in regular fire drills and learn about road safety, which helps to develop their understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, road signs are displayed and a zebra crossing is in place in the garden, which helps to further their knowledge of road safety. Pre-school children have a good understanding of the need for hygiene, 'to get the germs off' and are able to manage their own personal hygiene with confidence. This helps to develop their self-care skills. The childminder has a very good knowledge of nutrition and plans a varied menu for children, which is both appetising and healthy.

## 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>	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	1

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

<b>How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

### 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>	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	1
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	1

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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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