

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	300019
<b>Inspection date</b>	18/02/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Melanie Arnold
<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 1992. She lives with her husband and two adult children in Stannington, Sheffield. The whole of the ground floor of the house is used for childminding, with toilet facilities located on the first floor. The premises are accessible by a number of steps. There is an enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years of age at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. There are currently four children on roll, one of whom is within the early years age range. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years and is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder works well with parents and carers to ensure she recognises, promotes and values the individuality of each child. However, partnership working in the wider context has yet to be further developed. Children are safeguarded and they achieve well because the childminder implements mainly effective policies and procedures. The childminder has developed her practice since the last inspection and she uses a clear system of self-evaluation to promote continuous improvement.

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

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

- ensure the home is securely maintained to prevent intruders from entering the premises (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register).
- 11/03/2011

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

- develop further the ongoing observational assessment to more accurately monitor children's progress in all areas
- develop further the links with other providers to ensure the clear exchange of information about children's care, learning and development to fully promote continuity of care and learning for all children.

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

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's welcoming home. Space and resources are organised well to meet their needs. The childminder provides children with access to a range of developmentally appropriate toys and resources from which they can independently select. The majority of potential hazards are identified and effectively minimised through the childminder's clear risk assessment procedures. However, the home is not maintained securely and while children are constantly supervised, which minimises the risk of them leaving the home unsupervised, the risk of an intruder gaining access to the premises is not fully reduced. Children are protected and their welfare safeguarded because of the childminder's good understanding of possible indicators of abuse and her secure knowledge of child protection procedures. All required records, documents and policies are in place and well maintained. They are used effectively by the childminder to promote the safe and efficient management of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The childminder maintains a current first-aid certificate to protect children's well-being. She is committed to developing her knowledge through ongoing training, which enables her to keep up-to-date with current practice issues. The childminder promotes the inclusion of all children through working effectively with parents and carers. Clear information is gathered and exchanged from the outset to ensure children are fully supported in line with their individual needs, backgrounds and beliefs. This also enables each child to reach their full potential from their unique starting points. Parents learn about their children's care, learning and development through the childminder's good communication channels. The childminder exchanges some information with other settings about children's care routines. However, systems to share clear information about children's learning and development have yet to be established, to ensure children fully benefit from an integrated approach to their care and learning. The childminder has made improvements by working on the recommendations raised at the last inspection, resulting in the promotion of positive outcomes for children. Future targets for development are identified through the childminder's clear system of self-evaluation.

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

Children are confident and relate well to the childminder. They have fun playing inside and outside with a good range of well-maintained toys and resources. Children's health is effectively maintained through the childminder implementing clear health and hygiene routines, which minimises the risk of the spread of infection. Their dietary requirements are fully met because all meals are provided by their parents and carers. The childminder provides a healthy range of snacks and drinks for children, to ensure they benefit from a balanced diet. Children are encouraged to be active and they adopt good personal hygiene routines. For example, they cover their mouth with their hand when coughing and they

independently access tissues and throw them into the bin once they have wiped their nose. Children's safety is maintained through the constant vigilance of the childminder. Clear outings procedures are in place to ensure children are protected when they are away from the childminder's home. Children's awareness of safety issues is well promoted through discussions, activities and regular events. For example, children learn how to cross the road safely during regular walks and, through discussion, they learn why it is important not to speak to strangers. Children's good behaviour is promoted through the childminder's positive strategies. Outings to toddler groups enable children to develop good social skills as they learn to play co-operatively with their peers. Children learn to value each other as unique individuals through the childminder acting as a positive role model. Activities and play experiences relating to differences and diversity, further promote children's knowledge of the wider world.

Children make good progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder takes the lead from the child, planning activities around their specific interests. Observation and assessment systems are in place and regularly shared with parents and carers. They are used generally well to ensure each child is fully supported and challenged appropriately. However, the childminder has yet to further develop these systems to ensure children's progress is more accurately monitored in all areas. Play becomes purposeful because the childminder engages in children's chosen activities with them, asking good questions to challenge them to think. For example, when a child chooses to play with a tape measure, the childminder encourages the child to correctly use it to measure things with. As the child measures each item, the childminder asks how long or how big the item is, with the child confidently reading out a range of numbers from the tape measure. Children's awareness of number is further skilfully promoted during regular outings, where the childminder makes the most of events as they unfold. For example, on bin collection day children enjoy counting how many bins they can see and they also identify any printed numbers stuck to the bins. Children use their imaginations well as they play and their communication skills are developing as the childminder engages in simple conversations with them. Children skilfully use electronic toys and resources to support their learning. For example, when using a child's laptop computer, children are encouraged to correctly identify and press the letters in their name.

## 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>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</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	3
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:

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 (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 11/03/2011

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 (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 11/03/2011