

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY416226
<b>Inspection date</b>	11/07/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Jacqueline Nation
<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 2010. She lives with her husband, who occasionally works as her assistant and their two children, aged 12 and 10 years. They live in the Wednesfield area of Wolverhampton. The premises are within walking distance of local schools, parks and playgroups. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. First floor rooms are not used, except for access to the bathroom. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The family have a pet dog, cat and two rabbits.

The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is registered to provide care for a maximum of six children at any one time. There are currently seven children on roll, five of whom are within the early years age range. Children attend on various days. The childminder 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 provides good opportunities for children to learn and develop within the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children are happy and relaxed as they learn through play in this welcoming family home. Children's welfare is promoted and the childminder has developed good partnerships with parents and carers to ensure continuity of care and learning. The childminder shows a capacity to maintain continuous improvement by reflecting on her practice and is proactive in extending her knowledge and skills.

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

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

- update the record of risk assessment to include any assessments of risks for outings to ensure children's safety
- improve documentation to reflect children's learning and development across all areas of learning.

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

Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder understands her role regarding child protection. She has completed safeguarding training and devised a written policy which is shared with parents. Appropriate contact details are available should she have any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder maintains organised and effective recording systems with regard to the children's attendance, medication and accidents to ensure children's welfare is promoted and

their needs are met. Documentation is stored to ensure confidentiality. Effective vetting procedures are in place to ensure adults are suitable to have contact with the children. Children play in a safe and well-organised environment. The childminder is vigilant. She supervises the children well and has conducted a risk assessment of the premises and outdoor area. However, the childminder has yet to update her risk assessment record to include all outings undertaken with the children, to fully support their safety and well-being. A good range of safety equipment is used effectively in the home where potential risks to children have been identified. The childminder has the appropriate fire detection and control equipment in place. She maintains a record of fire drills and records any problems encountered and how they were resolved. The childminder has a range of written policies and procedures which underpin her practice and are shared with parents.

Children are happy and relaxed as the childminder offers warm and affectionate care that supports their welfare and learning well. Good attention is given to making sure children play with toys that are safe and appropriate to their age and stage of development. The childminder demonstrates a welcoming attitude to inclusion and is committed to treating all children equally. Partnerships with parents and carers are good. Useful information is obtained from parents at the start of the childminding arrangements and good settling-in procedures help children develop a sense of belonging. The childminder works closely with parents and carers to ensure children's individual needs are met within the daily routine. She has daily conversations with parents which help to keep them well informed about their child's day. Written feedback is provided for parents of younger children, this includes details about their care, well-being and achievements. The childminder recognises the importance of working with other providers to ensure progression and continuity of care and learning.

The childminder demonstrates a commitment to ongoing improvement. She reflects on her practice and consideration has been given to the self-evaluation process. The childminder is developing a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and has a well-planned programme of ongoing learning opportunities to ensure that her skills are consistently updated.

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

Children are happy and content in the childminder's care. The childminder provides children with a wide range of play and learning opportunities, which helps them make good progress towards the early learning goals. She knows the children well and is fully aware of their individual characteristics, interests and play preferences. Planning and assessment systems have been introduced and children's progress and development is recorded and shared effectively with parents. The childminder uses the information from her observations to plan the next steps in their learning. However, she has not evaluated the assessment system to ensure all areas of children's learning are reflected in their development plans.

The childminder recognises the learning opportunities in everyday activities. She places a good emphasis on promoting children's personal, social and emotional

development. She takes children on visits to local groups where they can play with their peers and this helps to develop their social skills and confidence. The childminder plans activities where all children can take part, learn to take turns and feel included. Children's language development is fostered well through positive interaction. They have regular opportunities to listen to stories and sing nursery rhymes. Younger children like to look at picture books, and books where they can lift flaps and anticipate what they might see. All children access mark-making activities, using paint, crayons and chalks. Their creativity is supported effectively as they take part in a wide range of art and craft activities and role play. Children enjoy making models, using cardboard boxes, manipulating play dough and water play. The childminder introduces children to numbers and problem-solving as they play. She uses resources, such as puzzles, shape sorters, building bricks, skittles and hopscotch games. She counts with them and talks about shape names, size and colours. Children are developing a good knowledge and understanding of the world. They are encouraged to observe features of the local environment and talk about the weather. Their awareness of people's similarities and differences is promoted through discussions about different religions and celebrations. Younger children are given opportunities to use their senses as they investigate a range of sensory materials and objects in a treasure basket. Good attention is given to enhancing children's physical development. Babies have plenty of space to move around to explore their surrounding with curiosity and interest. Children walk to and from school, play in the garden where they can ride bikes and scooters, and they visit the park where they refine their skills on balance beams and stepping stones.

All children show a strong sense of security and feel safe within the childminder's home. Children's photographs and interactive displays, such as weather charts, are displayed on the wall. These make the home interesting and welcoming. The childminder gives children opportunities to express themselves, talk about how they are feeling and they competently make their needs known. Children are learning to keep themselves safe. The childminder talks to them about road safety and the 'Green cross code'. Children's behaviour is managed well taking into account their age and stage of development. She has a calm and gentle manner and encourages children to share and tidy away toys. Children are praised for their efforts and receive stickers for their achievements. The childminder is effective in supporting children's good health and well-being. The premises are clean and positive steps are taken to reduce the risk of cross infection. The childminder is fully aware of children's individual dietary needs. Currently, all parents provide snacks, meals and drinks to meet their child's needs. The childminder makes sure children are offered regular drinks to help keep them hydrated. Overall, children are developing good skills to support their future learning.

## 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	2
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:	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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