

## Inspection report for early years provision

---

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b> | EY229806    |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 13/03/2009  |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Linda Cook  |
| <b>Type of setting</b>         | Childminder |

## 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 report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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.

## **Description of the childminding**

The childminder was registered in Sept 2007. She lives with her husband and their three children aged seven, five, and 18 months in a house in Northallerton, North Yorkshire. Minded children have access to whole of property apart from main bedroom and rear garden which is used for outdoor play. Family pets include a dog and cat and the home is within walking distance of the town centre and local amenities.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for three children under eight years. She currently cares for three children part time, two of whom are in the early years age group. She is a qualified child carer and a member of the National Childminding Association.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

The childminder effectively promotes children's welfare and learning and she provides a safe and inclusive environment. Good systems are in place in relation to planning and assessment. The children are happily engaged and occupied in a broad range of stimulating play activities and experiences. There is a good working relationship with parents and they are kept well informed of their children's daily routines, care and learning. The childminder has developed effective systems in relation to self-evaluation and these help her to monitor the service she provides and to identify key strengths and areas for development.

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

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

- continue to develop and evidence the learning partnership with parents

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

All required documentation is in place and written policies and procedures work well in practice to positively promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. The childminder implements an effective self-evaluation process which identifies areas for development. She shows an ability for continuous improvement as she has addressed the recommendations from the last inspection, obtaining written parental consent before administering medication and keeping appropriate records to safeguard children's health.

She is a qualified child carer and has also attended training in relation to the Early Years Foundation Stage framework to enable her to be in a position to be able to

meet the requirements of the framework and promote positive outcomes for children. The childminder is committed to ensuring that the service she provides is fully inclusive and she makes parents and their children feel welcome. The childminder has developed a folder which includes written policies and procedures. These are shared and discussed with parents at the beginning of the minding arrangement, helping to forge good working relationships and a shared understanding from an early stage. Parents are provided with a wealth of information about their children's care, learning and development. For example, the childminder maintains children's individual observation and assessment records and an illustrated learning record both of which are shared with parents. While the learning partnership with parents is sound current system do not evidence parents contributions.

The childminder is fully aware of her responsibility to safeguard children not only in the area of child protection but also by maintaining a safe home for play. The childminder has completed written risk assessments which cover all areas and are regularly reviewed.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, she plans and provides a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities to help the children make good progress across all areas of learning and development. The childminder works well with parents to gather information about their children's starting points. She observes children at play and uses this information to chart children's progress and plan their next steps in learning. Children's assessment records include written observations, next steps in learning and photographs to illustrate the children's enjoyment and development. The areas of learning are colour coded allowing the childminder to check all areas of learning are covered in sufficient depth.

The children develop a sense of belonging, are relaxed and they move around with ease and confidence. They are able to make decisions and express their needs. The children clearly enjoy their time with the childminder and they thrive on her interaction and attention. They develop good language skills as they talk about what they are doing. They ask questions about the things they see which develops their understanding of the wider world and the needs of others. Children enjoy a range of craft activities and show concentration skills as they strive to achieve the effect they desire. They take part in a wide variety of activities and are proud of their baking. They like to dress up using their imagination as they pretend to be a princess. They joyfully join the childminder in music sessions where they play instruments, sing well known children's songs and complete action rhymes. They enjoy physical activities as they walk part of the way to school each day, play in the garden or enjoy trips to soft play facilities and local parks.

The childminder implements strategies to promote all children's social, physical and economic well-being. The children learn about hygiene practices and personal care routines as they wash their hands and begin to understand why this is important. They are well nourished and develop an awareness of healthy eating because the

childminder provides a menu that is well balanced and nutritious to aid their growth and development. The childminder's home is safe and secure it is well equipped with toys and resources and provides an enabling environment where children can thrive. Children begin to learn how to keep themselves safe as they learn how to cross roads safely and practise emergency evacuations. The childminder acts as a positive role model to the children and they receive a clear message about what is expected of them. The children are polite and behave well. They become aware of sharing and taking turns from an early age.

## 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*

### Overall effectiveness

|                                                                                                             |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b> | 2 |
| How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?                                                     | 2 |
| The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.                                           | 2 |

### Leadership and management

|                                                                                                   |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>          | 2 |
| How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement? | 2 |
| How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?                            | 2 |
| How well are children safeguarded?                                                                | 2 |

### Quality and standards

|                                                                                                       |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>  | 2 |
| <b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>       | 2 |
| How well are children helped to stay safe?                                                            | 2 |
| How well are children helped to be healthy?                                                           | 2 |
| How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?                                                    | 2 |
| How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?                                         | 2 |
| How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being? | 2 |

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

|                                                                                                   |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: | Met |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|

|                                                                                                  |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: | Met |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|

## **Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted**

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

### **Detail of the complaint/s**

There have been no complaints since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.