

## Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique reference number</b> | EY239100          |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 24/09/2009        |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Karen Ann Byfleet |
| <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 2002. She lives with her husband and daughter in a residential area of Hucknall. Local amenities such as shops, parks and schools are all within walking distance. The whole of the ground floor of the childminders home is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed rear garden which is used for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The setting is registered to provide care for a maximum of six children under eight years. There are currently five children on roll and of these four are in the early years age range.

The childminder holds a Level 3 qualification in childcare and is currently undertaking a degree in early years. She receives support from the local authority, is a member of the National Childminding Association and is an active member of the local childminding support group.

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

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

Children are making excellent progress in their learning and development. They are very happy and settled within the highly organised environment and the childminder clearly recognises values the uniqueness of each child that attends. The extremely effective partnerships that have been developed with parents ensure children's welfare needs are consistently met and the positive and highly effective relationships with other providers ensures consistency and coherence in the children's care and learning. All required documentation is in place to ensure children are safeguarded. The childminder has maintained and reviewed her provision through a detailed self-evaluation and is fully committed to maintaining continuous improvement of her provision.

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

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

- implementing a system to verify the identity of any visitors, record their names, purpose of the visit and details of arrival and departure times.

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

Children are effectively safeguarded as the childminder has implemented a detailed and effective policy and procedure which she shares with parents. The policy is clear in informing parents and carers of her responsibilities to ensure children are

safeguarded. Effective and detailed risk assessments are in place for the premises, equipment and for all outings undertaken with the children. These are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain valid and consistent. Highly effective safety measures are in place with regard to the premises. The door to the house is kept locked and the gate outside in the rear garden has locks fitted to prevent unwanted visitors from entering the premises, ensuring children are safe. However, a record of all visitors to the setting has not been implemented to further safeguard children. An emergency evacuation plan is in place which is practiced with the children and recorded, helping to raise children's awareness of safety. Children's health and welfare is fully supported through a varied and balanced diet of healthy foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables. All required written permissions are in place for the childminder to administer medication and seek any necessary medical advice or treatment. Enhancing children's well-being. Resources are very well maintained, clean and suitable for their purpose.

The childminder's self-evaluation is detailed, forward thinking and clearly identifies and reflects her highly effective practice. Recommendations made at the previous inspection have been completed well and as a result the childminder demonstrates a strong capacity for maintaining continuous improvement. She has excellent knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and has devised her practice to include very effective observation and assessment systems to ensure she is monitoring children's progress and development fully. Partnerships with parents are professional and very effective. They are given access to the childminder's written policies and information about children's welfare is exchanged daily through verbal communication and also through written diaries. Information with regard to the children's progress in their learning and development is also shared regularly as the childminder makes summary reports of each child's development through all areas of learning and includes targets she has set for the next six months to ensure the children continue to develop and make progress. Each month the childminder provides all parents with written information on forthcoming plans and topics and invites them to contribute with their comments. The development of beneficial links with other providers who deliver the EYFS and promote integration of care and education is excellent. The childminder takes note of the nursery's planning and incorporates topics into her own plans to ensure children's learning is consistent and coherent.

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

Children are extremely happy and settled in the childminder's home and they are making excellent progress in their learning and development. The childminder interacts very well with the children in their freely chosen play and she is warm and caring towards them. The environment is organised the very well which ensures the children are able to independently access toys and resources, helping to raise their sense of belonging and self-esteem. The childminder plans very effective routines and activities which clearly take account of individual children's interests and choices. Outdoor activities are planned and provided on a daily basis and the childminder is flexible as she takes account of what children want to do and the weather conditions. The childminder plans activities very well and

undertakes regular observations that link to the areas of learning in order for her to plan the next steps in children's learning. She responds positively to children's interests and through her excellent liaisons with other providers she is able to extend on what children have been learning. For example, she incorporates the colour and shape of the week into her planning. Children enjoy playing with water and talk about how the childminder had added red food colouring to make it red. They also have food colouring in trays of flour and shaving foam and clearly relish in these activities as they mix them and talk about the different shades of red they make.

Children's welfare and safety is fully supported. They feel safe within the childminder's home and they confidently approach her and any visitors to the home and they are developing independence as they make choices. The childminder has very detailed and clear policies and procedures in place to ensure children are well cared for if they fall ill or have minor accidents and she holds a valid first aid certificate. Children's health is further supported through the healthy foods and drinks which are available to children throughout the day. Children are developing a highly effective awareness of their own personal hygiene as they know and follow hygiene procedures such as washing their hands before eating and after using the bathroom, with no prompting from the childminder. All children have their own individual hand towels which helps prevent any cross infection.

Children's development in all six areas of learning is promoted extremely well. They have regular access to activities that encourage and develop their skills such as problem solving and communication. For example, they enjoy filling the different sized bottles and containers with water, lining them up on the low garden wall, then initiating their own game of knocking them over with the football. They participate in craft and creative activities such as painting and collage. The children are cooperative and play very well together forming strong relationships with each other. For example, they show off their own pictures but also talk about other children's pictures who are not present. Activities planned and provided, enable children to further extend their literacy skills. For example as they play with the sand, flour and shaving foam they use their fingers to draw and write the letters of their names.

## 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

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <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

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <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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|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage | 1 |
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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <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**

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 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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