

## Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique reference number</b> | EY252086        |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 18/12/2008      |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Carolyn Gifford |
| <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).

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 2003. She lives with her family at Sprotbrough in Doncaster. Local schools, shops and parks are within walking distance. The whole of the ground floor is available for childminding, which includes a lounge and dining room, kitchen, hallway and downstairs toilet. The childminder's son's bedroom and the spare bedroom on the first floor are also available for childminding. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outdoor play. The premises are accessible via a gently sloping driveway, and one step to both the front and rear doors.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years old at any one time. There are currently eight children on roll, three of whom are in the early years age group. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory part of the Childcare Register and the voluntary part of the Childcare Register. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are very happy and settled at the setting and show a strong sense of belonging. They are confident and make independent choices as effective systems are in place to ensure they remain safe. Positive steps have been taken to improve the childcare service, although not all of the previous recommendations have been acted upon, and the childminder still does not have written parental consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. The childminder demonstrates a sufficient knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), and provides an interesting and varied range of activities and resources. However, the planning and assessment processes do not adequately focus on the areas of learning and the next steps in individual children's learning and development.

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

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

- develop systems for planning and assessment to ensure that the six areas of learning are covered in sufficient depth and breadth
- ensure that all of the relevant information and detail is included in the record of when medication is administered to children
- continue to build on existing links with other settings providing for children in the EYFS.

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

- request written parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare).

01/01/2009

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

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment where the childminder takes all reasonable steps to identify and minimise potential hazards. The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibilities with regard to safeguarding children, and helps them to understand danger and how to stay safe as part of daily routines and activities. Required policies and procedures are in place and are implemented effectively to promote children's general welfare. However, not all of the relevant information and detail is included in the record of when medication is administered to children.

Parents are provided with helpful information about the setting and they are invited to contribute what they know about their child's likes, dislikes, needs and interests when their child first starts to attend. Useful information is displayed and photographs illustrate the experiences and activities children are offered. The childminder communicates very well with parents and completes a daily diary for parents to take home, which effectively contributes to parents feeling involved in the childcare.

The childminder does communicate with other settings providing the EYFS, but does not make effective links to ensure continuity of approach and to complement children's learning and development. Activities and resources in the daily play environment reflect children's interests, although they are not consistently planned to offer experiences in all areas of learning. The childminder demonstrates her capacity to improve as she has taken positive steps to make necessary improvements highlighted at the previous inspection. For example, there are increased resources and activities that promote diversity and children's attendance is recorded appropriately.

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

Children enjoy a variety of experiences and activities, both indoors and out that promote their overall development. They have good opportunities to initiate imaginative play and enjoy outings in the local community as they visit parks, play areas and pre-school groups. All children have independent access to a broad range of good quality resources and equipment that are well organised, readily and safely accessible, enabling children to make choices about their play. For example, children choose to play with construction bricks and use descriptive language when talking about what they are making. The childminder extends children's knowledge and understanding and introduces words such as 'higher, lower, more than and less than'. She uses appropriate questioning techniques to encourage children to problem solve and to think critically.

The childminder has begun to make simple written observations of what children do and enjoy. However, she is not yet effectively using these to assess individual children's learning and development and to plan the next steps in their learning.

Children's safety is promoted well by the childminder as she talks to them about keeping safe and crossing roads safely when on routine outings. Children's behaviour is good and the childminder offers lots of praise and encouragement to reinforce positive behaviour. She talk to children about why certain behaviours are not acceptable, which effectively helps children to learn right from wrong in a caring and safe environment. The childminder offers a fully inclusive service for all children, and has a good knowledge and understanding of the areas to consider when caring for children with learning difficulties or disabilities to ensure that she continues to meet the needs of all children attending.

The childminder promotes children's general health and welfare and children learn about healthy living via daily experiences, activities and discussion. For example they are offered fresh fruit at snack-time and meals reflect healthy food choices.

## 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

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <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.                                           | 3 |

### Leadership and management

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| <b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>          | 3 |
| How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement? | 3 |
| How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?                            | 2 |
| How well are children safeguarded?                                                                | 3 |

### Quality and standards

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| <b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>  | 3 |
| <b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>       | 3 |
| How well are children helped to stay safe?                                                            | 3 |
| 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**

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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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## **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 made to Ofsted 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.