



Inspection report for early years provision

**Unique Reference Number** 300141  
**Inspection date** 12 July 2005  
**Inspector** Sharron Hall

**Type of inspection** Childcare  
**Type of care** Childminding

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1995. She lives with her partner and his two adult sons in a house in the Ryegate area of Sheffield. The property is situated close to all local amenities and is well served by public transport.

The dining room is the main area for minded children to play, but access is available to other parts of the house. The first floor toilet and bathroom are used by minded children and the main bedroom is sometimes used for children who need to sleep. There is an enclosed garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children and is currently minding three children under the age of eight and two older children. She walks to local schools to take and collect children. She takes children to the local park.

It is a non-smoking household.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Good health and hygiene practices are in place and the childminder follows appropriate guidelines, policies and procedures. Children show an understanding of their own well being and respond well to daily routines both inside and outside the home.

They are welcomed into a safe and secure environment where they feel happy and able to interact with each other and the childminder. They show interest in growing plants and vegetables, which is linked to healthy eating at snack times. The childminder ensures that the children are well nourished; she discusses nutrition with parents and adheres to their requests.

Children have a good daily routine of walking to and from school and to the local park, where they enjoy physical activities on a daily basis. They can sleep, rest or play according to their needs.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children benefit from being welcomed into a homely environment, which is clean and well maintained both inside and outside. All safety measures are in place and the childminder is fully aware of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe in all circumstances. Children learn about their own safety whilst on outings to school, the local parks and places of interest. They understand why they should walk and not run, why they need to hold onto the buggy and why they need to stay together. They are beginning to understand the green cross code and the dangers of the busy local traffic.

Fire evacuation plans are in place with older children knowing where to congregate outside in order to keep safe. They are protected by the use of safety fire equipment within the home, which is checked and kept in good working order. If using the car, suitable restraints and car seats are used and permission is obtained from parents.

They benefit from being involved in activities in the garden and the allotment. They understand how to use equipment safely and know which plants they can touch and which vegetables they can eat. Space inside and outside is well utilised. Children can move freely and safely between both areas. They can access toys easily from well placed storage.

The childminder has sound knowledge of child protection matters and is fully aware of her role and responsibilities.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are happy and encouraged to share experiences from home with the childminder. They show confidence and good awareness of themselves and each other; they express freely their likes and dislikes.

They recognise what they like for themselves, what they like to do and also respect what they are allowed to do. Behaviour is very good and they respond to positive praise and encouragement and good role models.

Meaningful relationships are built as children are encouraged to build trust and develop their own self esteem and confidence. They experience a range of stimulating activities both inside and outside and have opportunities to learn about how things grow. They use appropriate tools confidently as well as developing their gross motor skills in the local park.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Partnership with parents is good. The childminder ensures that children's needs are met at all times. Daily routines are well established and children are able to settle and feel supported in a warm and welcoming environment.

Their self esteem and confidence is growing as they interact well with their peers, the childminder and her family. They are learning about the world around them and how to care for themselves and each other in a positive way.

Children make choices, identify their likes and dislikes and recognise similarities and differences; they accept and respond to the positive approach and behaviour is good; they care and share for each other.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

All necessary documentation is in order, well presented and stored appropriately.

Children are well supervised and cared for in a happy, safe and secure environment. They are supported in their care and learning with the childminder and parents working in partnership.

Good daily routines, policies and procedures ensure that children are safe and happy within the home and outside it.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection the childminder has ensured that parents are aware of how to make a complaint, should they wish to, she has obtained written consents for administration of medication, seeking emergency treatments and for transporting children in her car.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

## **WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?**

### **The quality and standards of the care**

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- continue to develop the range of physical activities available to children.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)