

OXFORDSHIRE, JULY 2015

INTERVIEW WITH MOTHER OF TEDDY

FAMILY DETAILS:

Teddy lives with his mother and younger sister. Parents are separated, but father sees Teddy regularly and there is a wide family network. Teddy has also spent a lot of time with his grandmother. Mother has been working full time since May 2015.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS AND CLIMATE:

Family life and climate was not described as being stressful at any stage. It is not an overly strict house; there are no clear routines or set times for meals, bedtime, etc. Teddy tends to make his own choices and his parents feel that generally they are sound decisions and that he does therefore not need further boundaries. There have never been any behavioural issues.

CHILD CHARACTERISTICS:

Teddy is described as very sensitive and emotionally stable. He is relaxed, curious, confident and sociable. He likes to play with other children and is not keen on playing on his own. He likes to finish things and is happy to complete tasks once his interest is aroused. He likes praise and is also willing to praise others. He regularly writes 'praise' and 'sorry' cards. He loves animals and is very caring towards the family dog. He enjoys dressing up, puzzles, Lego and superheroes.

HOME EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES:

Teddy has always had a lot of books, but was not regularly read to as a young child. Usually, he is allowed and supported to follow his own interests. He has always been encouraged to join his parents in various daily activities and be part of what they do.

PRE-SCHOOL EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES:

Teddy started pre-school in September 2011 when he had just turned 3 and attended for 15 hours per week. He made lots of friends and enjoyed being around other children, and taking up the opportunities for child-led activities and choices. During this time he became close to his key person. It was an environment where staff rarely said 'no' to children trying new things and where risk and exploration were encouraged.

He began primary school in 2012 when he had just turned 4. He is one of the youngest children in his class at school.