

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY338602
Inspection date	31/10/2008
Inspector	Patricia Ann Edward
Type of setting	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 has been registered since 2007. She lives with her husband and four children, three of whom are dependent, in the London borough of Wandsworth. The house is within walking distance of local amenities. All area of the home are used for childminding purposes, there is an enclosed rear garden available for outdoor play. The home is easily accessible from front and back entrance.

The childminder is on the Early Years Register and also the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for up to four children at any time and currently has two children under five years on roll.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

All children are warmly welcomed into a friendly, family home environment. The childminder has an adequate understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). She acts as a good role model, fostering a positive attitude towards diversity and ensuring that all children have their individual needs met. As a result, children's welfare needs are met. Children have access to a sufficient range of activities, however, at present observations and activity plans are not completed to ensure children have access to all areas of learning.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- increase knowledge and understanding of Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage regarding the six areas of learning
- devise an appropriate system for observations and assessments, to assist in planning for next steps in children's learning and development. Also have consideration for involving parents, to assist in planning for next steps in children's learning and development
- carry out regular evacuation drills and record details in a fire log book of any problems encountered and how they were resolved
- promote positive attitudes to diversity through activities and equipment that encourage children to talk about similarities and differences and the reason for these; where necessary help children learn to value aspects of their own and other peoples lives

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

- obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children. (safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 19/12/2008
- devise appropriate systems to record risk assessment in particular to the home the garden and outings, and 19/12/2008

clearly stating when it was carried out, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident.
(documentation)

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment. Children settle quickly and develop good relationships with all family members and feel part of the family. The children's safety whilst in the home is ensured because the childminder completes a visual risk assessment of her home on a daily basis. Although she ensures all areas of her home and outdoors are fully safe and secure at all times, no log is kept of risk assessments completed in the home and when on outings.

The childminder knows the children well and provides them with a range of adequate activities each day, enabling them to develop and learn appropriately. She is beginning to develop a better understanding of the EYFS framework through attending training. Systems have not been implemented to observe children's progress and identify the next steps in their development. This prevents her from fully assessing children's developmental needs and to plan for their progress. Currently parents involvement is not sought in obtaining children's starting and when sharing next steps.

The majority of records are appropriately documented and confidentiality is maintained. Clear written policies and procedures have been obtained and are used in practice to effectively promote the health, safety and well-being of all children. However, medication records do not contain consent from parents prior to medication administration. The childminder understands her duty to safeguard the children in her care and has up to date contact details and what to do if a concern should arise. All policies and procedures are available for parents, upon request, to inform them of the service. She has a flexible approach and works with the parents, having a regular dialog to ensure the children's health and wellbeing are fully met.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder adequately promotes children's welfare, learning and development. Children are beginning to learn how to keep themselves healthy because the childminder encourages them to develop effective hygiene routines and to make healthy choices about what they eat and drink. Children enjoy the healthy and nutritious meals and snacks prepared by the childminder. They know that some of the vegetables come from the garden area and they have played a part in tending them. Children they have opportunities for physical exercise both inside and outside the home to encourage them to develop habits that develop a healthy lifestyle. The children access the park on the estate and visit local library. The childminder visits local play groups and drop-ins during the summer months.

The childminder organises the space within her appropriately. However, activities

are not planned in advance to ensure that children make progress through the six areas of learning. Consequently, it is unclear how children are achieving across all the areas of learning or what they need to do next, to reach their maximum potential. She has an adequate understanding of play and appropriately supports children by allowing them to choose from the small selection of accessible toys. These are stored at children's level to promote choice and independence. The childminder talks to children and listens to their responses to encourage opportunities for language development. They are developing a positive attitude to languages and are learning keywords in numerous languages. This is encouraged by the childminder who speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese. She also encourages them to look at their difference for example, in their skin colours and explains to children, why this is. However, children have limited opportunities to develop a positive attitude to self and the wider world. There is a limited amount of resources that reflect positive images of race, cultures, religion, gender and disabilities. The childminder provides children with some creative activities, such as painting and drawing on mega sketch, which allows them to express themselves creatively. She is aware of what the children enjoy such as music and movement, drawing and number activities, such as counting the steps as they access the first floor.

Children's welfare is safeguarded well. Their health is maintained as they are cared for in a clean environment where appropriate hygiene practices are promoted to help minimise the risk of cross-infection. Food is prepared well to ensure it fully meets their dietary requirements and she holds a certificate in food safety. Children's behaviour is age appropriate, they are given clear and consistent boundaries and consequently they understand what is expected of them and behave well. They also receive lots of hugs, praises and encouragement. Children's safety is maintained because the childminder supervises them closely. Their safety is further protected in the event of a fire because the childminder takes care to ensure smoke alarms are in working order and that a fire blanket is place. However, children's understanding of what to do in the event that they have to evacuate the premises is not being developed sufficiently.

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

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	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?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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

Annex B: the Childcare Register

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 registration

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.