

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY342872
<b>Inspection date</b>	26/11/2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Jeannette Waring
<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 lives with her husband and two sons, aged two and twelve years. The family live in a three bedroom terraced home with direct access from a level front garden. The house is located in a residential street close to Woolwich town centre. Schools, pre-schools and parks are close by, and Woolwich Dockyard mainline train station is a few minutes walk away. Children use the whole of the ground floor as their play space and there is an enclosed back garden for outdoor play. The family has no pets. The childminder has been registered since July 2006 and is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of three children under eight years at any one time. Currently there are two children on roll. The childminder is a member of the Greenwich Childminding Network.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. They are well cared for by the childminder who plans a range of interesting activities and outings which children enjoy. Her positive approach to inclusion ensures that everyone feels valued and welcome in her setting. Good partnerships with parents ensure that children have excellent continuity of care, although these arrangements are not yet sufficiently well developed to ensure parents have opportunities to comment on children's learning. The childminder is aware of her own strengths and of areas she would like to improve, and her positive approach to training ensures that she is able to provide a continually improving service to families.

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

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

- ensure that all cleaning products are inaccessible to minded children
- continue to develop the self evaluation process so that it helps to identify areas for development which will improve outcomes for children
- continue to develop the arrangements for observing and assessing children's progress to include a system which allows parents to contribute to children's records, this should include a system which enables parents to help identify the starting points of children new to the setting

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

The childminder's good organisation ensures that children are safe and well cared for. There are effective safeguarding procedures in place which ensure that children are protected from harm. The childminder has made sure that she keeps up to date with changes in local procedures by regularly accessing safeguarding training. Careful risk assessments are conducted in order to ensure children are

safe within the childminder's home and most hazards have been successfully minimised. However, a cupboard containing cleaning materials is accessible to children on the first floor landing.

The childminder has a very positive approach to continuous improvement and is developing her systems for self-evaluation. Since registration she has attended numerous short courses, as well as all required training. She continues to access training in order to further improve her practice. Her thoughtful approach to her work with the children in her care allows her to review and adapt her work on a daily basis and, as a result, she is able to identify things she would like to change or improve. However, her self-evaluation is not yet fully focused on improving outcomes for children's learning and development.

The childminder has well developed systems in place to support partnerships with parents in relation to children's welfare, and she is developing these systems to include children's learning and development. For example, there is good information for parents about routines and planned activities. Parents are also given a daily record sheet detailing children's care and some information on children's achievements. However, parents are not asked to contribute to children's progress records, and there is no system in place for parents of children new to the setting to share children's starting points with the childminder.

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

Children have good opportunities to play and learn together in the childminder's supportive and sensitive care. They are safe, happy, secure and settled. The childminder's positive behaviour management policy is shared with parents and children are very well behaved, sociable and friendly. The childminder offers all families a warm welcome. She takes time to find out about every child's individual needs. She encourages parents to share family celebrations with her and the children, and she helps children to value and respect each other.

The childminder provides a welcoming and accessible environment for children. As a result, children are confident and are developing independence as they select resources for themselves. The childminder sets out a range of toys for the youngest children which she knows will engage them. For example, children are currently interested in music and sounds so the childminder set out some musical instruments on a play mat.

The childminder is developing her planning systems so that they are flexible and accommodate the interests and needs of the children in her care. She carries out observations of children at play and uses this information to help her plan for children's next steps in learning. The childminder knows the children well and provides good support to them in their play. When the youngest children are resting, she plans activities which will interest and challenge the older ones. When engaged with the younger children, she continues to support the older ones.

Children enjoy the activities provided. Story times work well because the childminder allows time for children to ask questions, talk about the story, predict

what may happen next and recall the events at the end of the tale. Children have regular opportunities for physical play in the childminder's garden and on outings to the local parks and drop-in centres. They also enjoy a range of interesting visits that help them to learn about their community. For example, children recently visited the local fire station. When out and about with the children the childminder teaches them how to keep safe. At home, she reinforces this message using materials provided by the local road safety team. The childminder also recognises the importance of using daily routines to help children to learn. For example, as she counts the stairs with children as they go up and down to the bathroom and she encourages children to help set the table for lunch.

## 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

<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.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
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?	2

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
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**

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.