

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY362597
Inspection date	22/12/2008
Inspector	Christine Bonnett
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 was registered in 2007. She lives with her husband and two children, aged four and two years, in Isleworth, in the London Borough of Hounslow. A lodger also lives on the premises. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The whole of the house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The home has a downstairs bathroom and one step at the front door.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding two children in the early years age group and two children in the later years age group. All children attend on a part-time basis.

The childminder drives to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the local preschool groups. The family have a pet cat.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

All children are treated with good care as individuals in a clean and safe family home. They make good progress in their learning and development as the childminder provides a wide variety of play experiences for them to enjoy. Furthermore, the childminder evaluates her practice effectively to ensure it is developed continually for the children's benefit.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop a system to clearly demonstrate children's starting points and progress in their learning journey
- obtain written parental permission to seek any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment for their child.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children profit from the effectual relationship the childminder has with their parents. She appreciates the positive impact this partnership has on each child. A daily diary for each child, containing all the relevant events of the day, is shared with their parents to ensure that they are kept well informed and that consistent care is given.

Risk assessments are carried out on all areas of the home to protect the children from harm. Fire drills are also conducted regularly to enable children to begin to

learn how to keep themselves safe in the event of an emergency. However, safety is undermined as written permission from parents has not been obtained to seek any necessary medical advice or treatment for their child. All other records for the safe and efficient management of the provision, including those to meet the children's needs, are maintained.

Although the childminder has a good understanding of child protection matters, she is attending further training to develop a deeper knowledge in this area for the benefit of the children. Since registration, the childminder has also attended a food safety course to further protect children from potential harm. The childminder's commitment to further training demonstrates her willingness to build upon her existing good practice to enable children to enjoy positive experiences while they are in her care.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are confident and content in the childminder's care. They are active learners as they initiate their own games and explore the play resources with enthusiasm and curiosity. The childminder has a good knowledge of the six areas of learning. She understands that, with her support, one simple activity such as blowing bubbles, can encompass every area and consequently give the children a fun and stimulating experience.

The childminder has started to observe the children, assess their stage of development and identify the next step in their learning journey. However, the system used does not clearly demonstrate each child's starting point and the progress they make. The childminder has identified this as an area requiring further development.

Children learn about the wider world and respecting differences between people in positive ways as they have access to appropriate resources, such as books. They also have regular contact with other children from a range of cultural and religious backgrounds that are different to their own. Furthermore, the childminder encourages all children to treat others as they would wish to be treated. This helps to create a sense of harmony within the home, and enables all children to develop good self-esteem and confidence.

Outdoor play is well promoted by the childminder. Children benefit from physical exercise as they run around in the well-equipped back garden or park. They also learn about nature as they discover worms and imitate bird song. Children enjoy new challenges as they learn to ride bikes. The childminder gives them her full support and attention, and also minimises the risks by ensuring safety helmets are worn.

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?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	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

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.