

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY303714
Inspection date	23/10/2008
Inspector	Caroline Preston

Type of setting	Childminder
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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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 2005. She lives with her husband, one adult son and daughter aged nine years. They live in Hornchurch in the London borough of Havering. The whole of the childminder's house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding four under five and one over five before and after school. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends local toddler groups and takes children to the library and park. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children have excellent opportunities to develop to their fullest potential, all individual needs are met fully and provision for their physical and emotional well-being is excellent. Each child's uniqueness is recognised and promoted for example through photos displayed, which promote self-identity and sense of worth. In depth observations and assessments of each child's individual learning and achievement is monitored and recorded and used to promote further learning. Highly effective systems lead to continuous improvement for example, high calibre training. Exemplary partnerships between providers and parents ensure children's needs are met and their protection is assured.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- develop systems to observe and assess children when they first start.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises the childminding very well throughout the day. A detailed and thorough range of policies and procedures are available to parents which clearly show how the childminder works. Further training has been undertaken since the last inspection by the childminder, this includes a level three in childcare and many other shorter courses across childcare. Therefore huge steps have been taken to improve the childminding service to provide high quality care and education. At the last inspection the childminder was asked to improve children's understanding of equality, children now learn sign language, celebrate festivals, learn about themselves through many activities, and diversity is interlinked throughout the day, within discussions and activities. Written daily risk assessments are carried out both inside and outside and when taking children on trips, which ensure the safety of children at all times.

Parents are provided with very good quality information about the early years provision. This includes children's progress and achievement records, photographs, children's work is regularly displayed, information is given to parents about themes and topics and through daily discussions. This supports the ethos within the setting, of being inclusive and parents are very much part of what goes on for their child. Information about a child is gathered when they first start which is very useful, however not fully detailed about what they can do already. The childminder liaises with the school and local groups about individual children and their progression within the Early Years Foundation Stage, which ensures effective continuity and progression. Therefore children are given the support they need.

Very good steps are in place to ensure children are safe, all adults living within the household have undergone suitability checks. Children are always supervised and never left alone and the childminder has a very good understanding of child protection issues, she has also undertaken further training. Written parental permission regarding emergency medical treatment is in place, the childminder holds a current first aid certificate and both the certificate of registration and current public liability insurance is available. All accident and medication records are in place. The childminder has very good knowledge of her complaints procedure, parents are given the regulator's contact details. Children are offered a very good range of healthy meals, that support their understanding of being healthy, written menus are available and children are offered fresh portions of fruit and vegetables daily, posters of fruit are displayed, to reinforce healthy eating with children. Children learn about hygiene throughout the day, for example, clearing away before eating and changing into Wellington boots to play outside in the garden. The home is very clean, therefore children are safeguarded from the risk of infection. Children behave very well, the childminder is a very good role model, who treats children with kindness and respect, children behave well because they understand right from wrong and are always occupied with a very good range of play activities.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children learn about keeping themselves safe through discussions throughout the day, for example road safety and sitting down when eating and whilst playing in the garden. The provision is inspirational, with an exceptional learning programme that consistently allows children to achieve. Very good planning of activities cover all areas of development and is individual to each child. Photographs of what children do, are also used to clearly state what areas are covered for example, posting letters in a post box. The childminder writes what the aim of the activity is and what areas are covered underneath each photograph. Topics are planned throughout the year, which include trips, therefore forward planning is very good. Each child has their own achievement folder, with observations that show where the child is at and what progress has been made and future steps. The environment has been carefully planned to ensure it is inviting and stimulating, the outdoor area has been organised very well, to allow children choice and to be able to go outside when they choose. A large gazebo has been added leading from the play room, underneath are child sized table and chairs, and a very good range of play resources. Therefore both

outside and inside provides children with very good learning opportunities. Activities are child-led, for example, children decide to play outside with the paint easel, put on their Wellington boots and use the large play resources. Children maintain attention, concentrate and sit quietly when handling programmable toys, and move up to more challenging tasks within the computer. Children are confident to speak and show awareness of the listener when interacting during play for example, discussing the colour of the various paints during painting activity. Children have excellent opportunities to play outside, they are confident using the large toys, they are able to move with confidence and develop their physical skills. Children grow plants and flowers in the garden, showing understanding of growing things and nature. Children create using paints, mixing different colours and expressing their creativity on paper. Children learn about numeracy by using games such as tap a shape, to develop different patterns, Chinese sticks and build and construct with bricks and draw and join dots on paper to create shapes. The childminder uses very good questioning techniques with children, to support their understanding of what they doing, for example using programmable toys, she gently supports children in how to move on in the game, without taking over.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

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

Overall effectiveness

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

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

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

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

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

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted.

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.