

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY282530
Inspection date	19/12/2008
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 was registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and two children one of who is a dependent in the London borough of Wandsworth. They live in a split level maisonette, the first floor of the home is used for childminding. The bedrooms on the second floor are not used for childminding purposes. The home is easily accessible from front entrance.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children under eight. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. Currently there are three children on roll all of which are in the early years age range.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder uses information gathered by parents well and, as a result, children individual needs are appropriately met. Their overall safety is suitably promoted, however, some required documentation regarding the safety of children is not in place. Children's learning is generally fostered well through an adequate stimulating range of resources and activities that reflect some of their individual interests. However, planning, observation and assessment systems are not yet in place for the children. Their welfare is promoted and the childminder's ability to self-evaluate ensures some priorities are identified and acted on.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- carry out regular evacuation drills and record details in a fire log book of any problems encountered and how they were resolved
- make the hallway mirror safe or inaccessible
- 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
- 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

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

- devise appropriate systems to record risk assessment in particular to the home the garden and outings, and clearly stating when it was carried out, date of review

16/01/2009

and any action taken following a review or incident.
(Documentation)

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has an appropriate understanding of all aspects of safeguarding children. She is confident in knowing the signs and symptoms in all areas of abuse and is fully aware of procedures to follow if concerns are raised. For example, she has contact numbers and written guidance easily available. As a result, children are protected well. Most of the essential records and written policies are in place, with the exception of written risk assessments. However, the measures and procedures followed by the childminder ensure that children remain safe and well protected. The childminder has begun to evaluate the provision, identifying areas of improvement. For example, training and improving paper work. The childminder has addressed the majority of the recommendations that were made at the last inspection, which has helped to promote the outcomes for all children. She has organised her space within the sitting room to ensure they have access to maximum space to play. The childminder has also increased her play materials and obtained some large equipment to develop younger children's physical skill. Documentation has been revised to ensure individual needs are recorded and times of arrival and departure are documented daily. She has also developed her knowledge of child protection procedures and reduced the use of the television during childminding hours. However there are some recommendation have not been completed and have been reapplied.

The childminder displays a positive attitude towards providing an inclusive environment for all children who attend the setting. The environment is planned sufficiently to allow children to be independent. They are able to choose what they want to play with from a small range of suitable toys that are stored well within their reach. The childminder spends time interacting with children and promoting their enjoyment whilst they are in her care. She has not completed any recent training that would develop her awareness of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Through self evaluation she is aware that this is an area for improvement. In addition to this, she has plans to develop children's individual profiles in which to record children's on-going progress through the six areas of learning. Food is provided by parents and the childminder ensures it is stored correctly. Clear agreements with parents demonstrate the childminder has a sound awareness of the need to take appropriate action when children are ill. Close supervision and secure premises indoors and outside help to ensure children are unable to leave unsupervised.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder is keen to develop her knowledge and understanding of the EYFS to ensure she implements useful systems to benefit children in their learning and development. Systems for planning and observations are not currently being implemented to record and monitor children's learning and next steps. This would

ensure all children receive a range of activities that meet their individual learning needs, and demonstrate that each area of learning is covered in sufficient depth. Nevertheless, the childminder provides a suitable balance of free play and adult-directed activities. She supports children's learning appropriately as she sits on their level on the floor and interacts in their play. With her support and encouragement, children happily play with the resources on offer and at times show confidence to play independently. Toys are of appropriate quality and are also age appropriate and easily accessed to allow children to make their own choices. They can explore their play space with most potential risks minimised. For example, safety gates are in place and smoke alarms fitted. However, the emergency evacuation procedure is not regularly practised with the children, which would develop their understanding of what to do in the event of an emergency. The mirror in the hallway is not secured firmly to the wall and poses a risk to children.

Children are developing a positive attitude to languages and are learning keywords in numerous languages. This is encouraged by the childminder who purchases equipment which say key words in French. This gives children who speak French in attendance a sense of belonging. 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. Positive and caring relationships exist between the children and the childminder. As a result, children are relaxed and happy in her care. Their behaviour is well supported by the childminder who gets to know each child and is able to respond to their individual needs. The childminder ensures daily discussions keep parents informed of their child's day such as food intake, nappy changes and outings. These generally concentrate on a child's care and welfare needs more than their overall learning and development.

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 the last inspection.

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.