

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	160127
Inspection date	02/10/2008
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 2001. She lives with her husband and three children aged six, 10 and 13 years in West Ealing in the London borough of Ealing. The whole house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. A downstairs bathroom is available.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time and is currently minding four children under five, all day. All attend on a part time basis. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The family has no pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The good knowledge of each child's individual needs ensures that the childminder successfully promotes all aspects of children's welfare and learning. Children are looked after with care and kindness in an environment that is clean and welcoming for them and their parents. The childminder understands the importance of constantly evaluating her practice for the benefit of the children, consequently, they are happy, well settled and enjoy their time with her. Effective partnerships with parents also add to the children's well-being.

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 for the observation and assessment of children to effectively monitor their progress in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).
- improve children's hand washing routine to prevent the risk of cross-infection between them.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder takes effective steps to evaluate her work with the children. She identifies her strengths, and is clear about areas she needs to build on to enhance children's learning and development. For example, devising a suitable system for observing and assessing children's achievements for the EYFS to ensure each child's starting point is identified and planning is effective. The childminder keeps up-to-date with record keeping requirements to ensure the safe and efficient management of her provision.

Children's safety is important to the childminder, and risk assessments are carried

out on all areas of her premises, and for the routine walk to school. Potential hazards are identified and minimised appropriately to protect children from harm.

The childminder has an extensive range of play equipment for the children to enjoy. The resources are easily accessible for them to select, which encourages children to make choices and develop their own particular interests. Children's welfare is protected as the childminder has good understanding of child protection issues. She is knowledgeable about indicators of abuse, and the procedure to follow to report concerns.

Children's individual needs are fully met because of the effective partnership the childminder establishes with parents. As well as sharing relevant information verbally each day, the childminder completes a daily diary for each child, which is given to the parents to take home over night. This helps to ensure consistency of care.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children benefit from receiving warm and affectionate care, and are treated as unique individuals. Younger children enjoy snuggling into the childminder's lap for cuddles, and older children engage in lively conversation with household members about the colour of their favourite football team's shirts. This enables children to grow in confidence and self-esteem as they begin to understand that they are valued and special within the home. In addition, the childminder sets clear and consistent boundaries for children's behaviour so that they learn what is, and is not, acceptable in ways that are meaningful to them.

Children's health is generally well promoted through the childminder's clean family home, and the provision of healthy and nutritious meals that take account of their individual dietary needs. Children are learning good personal care skills and understand why they are important to their health. However, a potential risk of cross-infection between them exists as children share a towel to dry their hands.

The childminder has a good knowledge of the EYFS learning and development requirements. She enables children to engage in stimulating play with suitable challenges to enable them to make good progress in their learning. Children are learning in a variety of ways. They explore the play equipment by themselves, and participate in adult supported activities, such as identifying and copying the letters of their name. Physical activities both out and indoors also provide learning opportunities as well as fun. The children dance around with the childminder to Brazilian rhythms, thereby developing control of their bodies and learning about different types of music, and where it comes from. Traditions and festivals from a range of religions are acknowledged to help children learn about the wider world.

As well as sharing each child's progress and development with the parents, the childminder has sought links with the children's school and obtained information about the curriculum they will be following. She is using this to reinforce and build upon the children's learning while they are in her care.

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

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

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

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.