

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	140318
Inspection date	07/11/2008
Inspector	Gulnaz Hassan
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 has been registered since 1993. She lives with her two school aged foster children in a two bedroom maisonette in Wood Green in the London borough of Haringey. The areas of the premises available to minded children consist of the living room, kitchen - diner and bathroom. Children have access to a fully enclosed garden. The childminder is registered to care for six children in the early years age group and she is registered on both the compulsory and the voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently two children, in the early years age group, on roll. Occasionally the childminder works with an assistant.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder's good knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage means that children are being effectively supported in working towards the early learning goals. Safeguarding of children is rigorous ensuring that children's welfare is paramount. Inclusive practice is generally good so that most elements of children's individual needs are met well and children are thriving as a result. Children benefit from the effective self evaluation processes in place and the systems that the childminder has established are instrumental in ensuring continued improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop the observations systems in place by clearly identifying plans for the next steps in children's development and learning
- develop ways of helping children to value their own and other cultures, religions and backgrounds

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's organisation in all areas of her provision is well developed. As a result children are making good progress in all areas of their development and they are very well cared for. The childminder has rigorous and detailed child protection procedures in place. The childminder's knowledge and understanding of protecting children in the event of suspected abuse ensures that she is able to safeguard children. In addition, the childminder has developed good risk assessments for the home and garden which are carried out regularly to ensure that risks to children are removed.

The childminder's capacity to maintain continuous improvement is good because the childminder is a reflective practitioner who continually evaluates and assesses her practice to identify how she can further develop herself. For instance, the

childminder has met previous actions set, with regard to child protection and documentation exceptionally well and this has further improved outcomes for children. The childminder is aware of the areas that require further strengthening and she has taken action to address these areas, such as identifying relevant training and making good use of the local authority for support and advice.

The childminder works well in partnership with parents. There are good levels of communication and relationships are sensitive, professional and mutually supportive. This ensures that children are exceptionally well settled and secure. Parents have access to a number of policies and procedures that promote children's good care and welfare. Parents and carers have access to daily records, observations and assessments of children as compiled by the childminder. In addition, the childminder ensures that parents share in their children's progress and daily routine, for instance the childminder keeps notes of interesting questions and comments made by the children to share with their parents.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements and this knowledge is reflected well in all areas of her provision and in the good progress that children are making towards the early learning goals. The childminder provides children with many different experiences to help them make progress across all the areas of learning. Children enjoy creative experiences, such as making their own play dough and they engage in unique painting activities for instance, string painting and using sand with paint to explore smooth and rough textures. Babies enjoy exploring and investigating the different household items, such as metal egg cups, in treasure baskets and learning to activate the different buttons and knobs on activity centres. Children enjoy different outdoor activities and they take note of their surroundings by picking the last of the summer beans and asking questions about the many leaves on the ground. Observations and assessments are used effectively by the childminder to assess children's starting points and daily activities are planned around children's interests as identified through observations and discussions with children. The childminder has recently started to identify and plan for the next steps in children's progress although this area is not yet fully developed.

The childminder supports children's language development well, she explains to children what she is doing and questions older children to encourage children to think and express their ideas, for instance, in connection to growing plants and the changing seasons. Children have access to a very good range of resources and play materials that are well organised and help to support children's learning and development. A good range of books and posters helps to promote areas of learning including numeracy and literacy. Children enjoy outdoor play and going out on a daily basis as the childminder recognises the value of fresh air and physical play in promoting children's general development and wellbeing.

Children are cared for in a safe and healthy environment. Children have access to two rooms in the home that have been well considered as rest and play areas. Emergency evacuations procedures are in place and these have been practised

with the children. Children are learning to think about outdoor safety, such as holding hands and crossing roads safely and the childminder talks to children about washing their hands and the need to keep clean. The home is very clean and there are very good hygiene procedures in place that safeguard children's health from the risks of cross infection and cross contamination. Children enjoy well balanced, nutritious home cooked meals and children's changing dietary needs, such as weaning, are discussed and agreed with parents. The childminder manages behaviour gently and appropriately and children thrive as a result of her patient and positive manner. The childminder has developed her systems for record keeping and documentation well ensuring the safe and efficient management of her provision.

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 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.