

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY368858
Inspection date	30/09/2008
Inspector	Angela Ramsey
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 March 2008. She lives with her 17 year old son, in the London Borough of Lambeth. The living room and second bedroom, are used for childminding purposes. There is a communal garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time and is currently minding two children both on a part - time basis.

The childminder is on the Early Years Register and she is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. The childminder is also a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are cared for in a homely environment. To date the childminder has not established a system for planning, observing and assessing the activities provided. However, a suitable selection of age appropriate play opportunities are provided in the childminder's home and during visits to under five groups. The needs of all children in the childminders care are routinely met as the childminder is aware of the uniqueness of each child.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop confidence in using the Early Years Foundation Stage
- ensure that observations and assessments of children are completed regularly and used to inform the planning of activities to cover all areas of learning, in order to meet children's individual needs.
- ensure parents are provided with details of how to make a complaint

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

- ensure an appropriate paediatric first aid course is completed (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 31/12/2008
- ensure an appropriate introduction to childminding course is completed (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 31/12/2008
- ensure details of all risk assessments including those for outings are recorded (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 31/10/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

An effective safeguarding policy is in place and the childminder is aware of the procedures to be followed should she have any concerns. Due to high demand for places the childminder has been unable to access first aid and introduction to childminding training within the allotted time of six months. However, the childminder is scheduled to attend these courses within the next month.

The childminder has begun to evaluate her service, and has identified that she needs to become more familiar with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. In addition to this she is also aware that she is required to implement a system for planning, evaluating and assessing the activities and opportunities provided for children, in order to meet children's individual needs.

The procedures for the safeguarding of children are sound. A written policy has been devised and is shared with parents. The childminder is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the appropriate action she is expected to undertake to ensure vulnerable children are protected. Although children are protected from harm, stair gates, electrical socket covers and smoke alarms are fitted. Written risk assessments are not kept including those for outings. Also a written procedure for dealing with complaints from parents and a written record of complaints are not in place.

Good relationships have been formed with parents. Parents provide information about their child's specific care needs. For example, their specific dietary requirements for which the childminder caters for. Parents are kept informed of their child's achievements and progress through daily feedback. The childminder is aware of the importance of sharing information with other child care professionals involved in a child's care.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's learning is satisfactorily supported. The childminder has attained some understanding of the early learning goals and she provides children with experiences to help them make progress in their development and learning. A balance of play opportunities are provided in the childminder's home and at childminding groups. However, the childminder has not started to keep notes on what the children can do. Or plan activities to cover all areas of learning, in order to meet children's individual needs.

The childminder gets to know the children well through good communication with their parents and as a result the children feel welcomed and comfortable in the childminder's home. Children are able to experience a suitable range of activities both inside and outside of the home, which contributes to their overall development.

Children settle well because the childminder has a routine including rest, meal times and days for attending childminding groups. All meals are healthy, nutritious and the childminder is aware children's dietary requirements. Young children become aware of the importance of hygiene, as the childminder cleans their hands with baby wipes before and after their meals.

Relationships between the children in the childminder's care is good. They enjoy each others company. Children particularly enjoy dancing to music, this promotes their confidence. Children are able to practice their hand, eye co - ordination and use their senses to discover the world of sight, sound and touch.

Children benefit the caring and affectionate relationship they have established with childminder. Regular trips to local childminding groups enable children to enjoy activities such as painting, sand and water play. Children can also enjoy the outdoor play area and benefit from the fresh air and exercise. Here children are active, inquisitive about the world around them and encouraged to become independent learners.

Visits to under five groups also provide children with the opportunity to make friends of different diverse needs and backgrounds.

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

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

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

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

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.