

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	138887
Inspection date	11/12/2008
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 1994. She lives with her husband, adult child and one child of 13 years in Hayes, in the London borough of Hillingdon. She is registered on the Early Years Register, and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She also works with another registered childminder.

The ground floor of the house is used for childminding as there is a downstairs cloakroom. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play, and two steps at the front door.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding three children in the early years age group and three children in the later years age group before and after school.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the local parent and toddler group and is a member of the local Childminding Network. The family has a dog.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are happy, confident and safe in a clean family home that provides an inclusive service for them all. Children make good progress in their learning and development as they enjoy a variety of play experiences that are well planned to meet their individual needs. The childminder is committed to continuously enhancing her existing good practice for the ongoing benefit of the children in her care.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- gain knowledge of how to effectively promote inclusive practice for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of child protection issues and the action she would take to safeguard children in her care. She has also effectively implemented the recommendation made at the previous inspection to add more detail in her attendance register to ensure accuracy, and further safeguard the children.

There are many good aspects to her effective partnership with parents. For example, there is a daily exchange of information regarding their child's daily activities and progress. In addition, the childminder's flexible approach enables her

to provide a service adapted to suit the different work patterns and needs of families.

The childminder understands the importance of continuously evaluating her work and identifying targets for her future development. Therefore, although children are valued as unique individuals and diversity is respected, she has recognised that to be able to offer tailored support to all children, including those requiring additional support, she will develop her existing skills.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder. She provides a challenging and stimulating programme of activities that supports them in all areas of their learning and development. Through observation, she has a good knowledge of children's individual abilities, and plans appropriate learning experiences for them. Her in-depth knowledge of the six areas of learning enables her to cover all areas in one activity, but she also incorporates them into the every day routine, such as counting the stairs to promote numeracy. She provides good opportunities for children to take part in role-play activities to consolidate their imaginative and language skills and also to help them learn to avoid negative gender stereotyping by promoting the role of women in non-traditional roles, such as girls dressing-up as police officers.

Children's independence is very well promoted. As well as having resources stored accessibly for children to help themselves to, she enables them to learn important self-help skills safely. For example, children prepare their midmorning fruit using a knife to cut it. The childminder shows them how to hold the knife and explains the dangers of using it incorrectly or putting it in their mouth.

The childminder also enables children to begin to understand the beneficial affects of physical exercise and healthy eating. She has a resource pack from the Heart Foundation that includes games and practical ideas to help children realise that staying fit can be fun.

Children have ample space in which to explore the play materials in comfort. Furthermore, the home is maintained to a good standard of cleanliness to ensure that children can play on the floor with minimal risk to their health.

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?	1
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.