

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY335291
Inspection date	04/03/2009
Inspector	Alison Romanczuk
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, first registered in 2006, lives with her husband and two young children. They live in a local authority two-bedroom sixth floor flat in Popular, East London. There is no garden area attached to the property. They live near to the A12 with access to a bus route, a primary school and nursery. There are local shops in the amenity that can be reached on foot. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for no more than three children in the early years age group, of whom one may be under one year old. There are currently three children on roll in the early years age group. The childminder has recently gained a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at level 3.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of provision is good. The childminder gives priority to providing an inclusive environment where all children are treated equally. Good partnerships with the children's parents, local groups and the local authority ensure she provides for and gives good consideration to each child's needs. Ongoing training, together with a secure understanding of her strengths and weaknesses, allows this childminder to ensure continuous improvements are maintained.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop a secure system for recording safeguarding concerns
- develop confidence in strategies for supporting behaviour management

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a keen commitment to providing good quality childcare and this is reflected in the attitudes and dispositions of the children attending. The environment is well organised and resourced in a way which encourages the children to explore and further develop their interests and skills. The childminder demonstrates a positive approach to inclusion providing a service which meets the needs of the local community well. Valuable relationships have been established with children's parents, local groups and the local authority and this helps the children to settle and the childminder to provide continuity of care.

The childminder has a clear knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures and of her responsibilities in promoting and protecting children's welfare, but systems for recording concerns are less secure. Despite this, records, policies and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the childminding business are in place and regularly shared with parents where appropriate. Thorough risk assessments carried out at the premises further protect

the children and they are supervised closely both indoors and when on outings.

The childminder clearly reflects on the service she provides and has evaluated her strengths and weaknesses well including identifying areas for future training. Extensive training has already been accessed, for example in areas such as special needs, health and safety, child protection and first aid, and the childminder plans to maintain this contact with outside agencies to ensure continuous improvement. She has successfully completed an NVQ at level 3 in childcare since registering and this further enhances the support given for children's care and developmental progress.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children progress very well towards the six areas in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has developed effective relationships with the children's parents and shares information with them on a daily basis both informally and through daily diaries. This helps to support her observations of children's interests and abilities and enables her to use information to support children's individual achievements in relation to their starting points. This effective communication between the childminder and parents about children's routines ensures that children's personal care needs are also well met and the children demonstrate increasing confidence in their environment. Furthermore, as a result of the childminder's good practice, children demonstrate high levels of motivation and are curious and excited about what they do. They chat with enthusiasm, enjoy quiet times reading with the childminder and times when they can explore their creativity through painting, cooking and working with homemade play dough. They quickly find toys such as white boards, musical instruments and puzzles and are eager to show the adults present their early literacy skills and achievements in problem solving, for example.

Children enjoy well-balanced meals and learn good habits such as washing their hands and learning to use the potty. They are comforted by the childminder's routine and behaviour is good. At times for example, older children gently direct the younger children in rules such as not drawing in books. The childminder helps the children to be aware of dangers and explains things in a clear manner appropriate to the children's level of understanding. However at times, the children become exuberant and the childminder worries that she has less strategies for managing their behaviour at these times. Children enjoy frequent visits to local sure start groups and playgroups where they benefit from interacting and developing important social skills with their peers. The childminder organises the environment so that children can easily access toys and resources, promoting their independence and choice during play and there are regular trips to the riverside, museums and farms to compliment children's experience and learning.

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

Since registration, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action.

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.