

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY374249
Inspection date	02/06/2009
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 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 2008. She lives with her husband and two children aged 10 and 15 years in Brentford, in the London borough of Hounslow. The ground floor of the house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time. She is currently minding six children in the early years age group. Only one child attends full time. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends parent and toddler groups. The family has one dog.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children make good progress in their learning and development because the childminder implements the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) effectively. Children in her care are treated with respect as unique individuals and have their particular needs met with warmth and kindness. The childminder recognises the benefit to the children of evaluating her practice and enhancing her skills.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- establish effective links with children's schools to share relevant information for continuity and coherence in their learning.
- develop the use of the garden by providing opportunities for children to explore, use their senses and be physically active and exuberant.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder establishes effective partnerships with parents. Her policies and procedures are discussed with them when their child joins her care to ensure they are aware of the service she provides for them and their children. All relevant information is exchanged verbally and in writing at the end of each day to ensure that the care given is appropriate and consistent.

Children's safety is promoted as the childminder is safety conscious and carries out risk assessments on all areas of her home and garden to identify and minimise potential hazards. She also helps children to learn how to keep themselves safe by holding regular emergency evacuation drills, and teaching them how to cross roads safely. The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of child protection matters. She

understands that the welfare of the children is paramount, and any concerns relating to possible child abuse must be reported appropriately.

The childminder is developing a system to self-evaluate her practice regularly as she realises that continual improvement is essential for the provision of good quality childcare. She has already identified areas of strength within her work, as well as others that she wishes to build up. One such area is the use of the garden. Although it is suitably equipped to enable children to enjoy imaginative play, it needs to also offer children the opportunity to explore the environment, their senses and a range of physical challenges.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have an enjoyable and fun time with the childminder. Although most of them attend on a part time basis, the childminder ensures they all have opportunities to engage in stimulating play experiences with her, either in her home or at parent and toddler groups. The childminder uses observations to assess each child's stage of development, and then uses her findings to plan the next step to encourage progression. The record sheets demonstrate the progress made by the children in all areas of development. Effective links are established with the children's nursery to ensure relevant information relating to their welfare is exchanged. However, information about their learning and development is not shared between the school and childminder to ensure continuity and coherence in each child's individual learning journey.

The childminder has a good understanding of the six areas of learning, and recognises that one well-resourced activity can incorporate all the areas effectively, such as playing with a farmyard set. The childminder encourages the children to sort the animals in to types, count them and talk about each animal while the child creates their own imaginative game.

Children begin to learn to be kind and considerate towards each other. The house rules encourage them to help tidy-up and be respectful. These boundaries for behaviour enable children to gain confidence and good self-esteem as they learn what is expected of them in positive ways.

The childminder has an organised approach towards childminding. She maintains all the records, policies and procedures required under the EYFS for the safe and efficient management of the provision and to meet the needs of the children in her care.

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

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- devise and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children (Safeguarding Children)

02/07/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified above

02/07/2008