

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	117545
Inspection date	15/01/2009
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 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 1999. She lives with her husband and two children aged 10 and eight years in Chiswick, in the London borough of Ealing. She is registered on the Early Years Register, and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The ground floor of the house is mainly used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The bathroom is upstairs and there is a step at the front door.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding two children in the early years age group. Both attend during term time only.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the local pre-school groups and is a member of the local childminding network. The family has no pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children receive good care and affection from the childminder, and are valued as unique individuals. They make good progress in their learning and development as they are well supported by her and have access to a variety stimulating play equipment. The childminder has the capacity to self-evaluate her provision and enhance her practice for the benefit of the children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- gain knowledge of the six areas of learning to provide a rich and varied environment to further support children's learning and development
- establish effective links with children's schools to share relevant information for continuity and coherence in each individual child's learning journey.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has an in-depth understanding of child protection matters. She acknowledges that children's welfare is paramount and would act promptly to report any concerns to help safeguard their well-being. In addition, she has carried out risk assessments in home to minimise any obvious safety hazards to further promote the children's safety and well-being.

The close working partnership the childminder has with parents ensures information is shared efficiently and both parties are kept informed of issues

relating to the child's care and learning.

The childminder shows commitment to developing her service, and since registration has undertaken a number of training courses, such as language and literacy, to build upon her skills. She is also a member of a local childminding network to ensure she maintains good practice and gains support.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are well settled and content in the childminder's home. The warm and gentle care given by her enables them to develop a sense of belonging and trust. Younger children squeal with pleasure as they are gently tickled and cuddled by the childminder. They also gain confidence to approach her to express their individual needs.

Children have good opportunities to participate in the community through regular visits to local pre-school groups where they socialise with others. They also begin to learn about the natural world around them as they visit Kew Gardens and the Wetlands Centre at Barnes.

The childminder encourages children to develop their enjoyment of books to underpin their future economic well-being. A wide selection is always available which she regularly reads to them. To further support the children's learning, the childminder has made links with their nursery and knows the themes and topics they have planned. This enables her to reinforce the children's learning while they are in her care. However, the plans are general, and do not identify the individual developmental needs of each child. The childminder has started to observe and record the children's development and plan the next step in their learning journey. The plans are not yet linked to the six areas of learning to ensure they are meaningful for the child and progress their development.

Children are interested in the play provided for them, and independently select the resources they wish to use. The childminder injects fun into their learning through dancing and singing. Younger children laugh with delight as they indicate they would like her to do 'walky round the garden' on their hand.

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.