

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	118909
Inspection date	14/01/2009
Inspector	Caroline Preston

Type of setting	Childminder
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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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 1997. She lives with her husband and three adult children in Hornchurch in the London borough of Havering. The whole of the childminder's house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five years. She attends local toddler groups and takes children to the library and park. The family has a pet rabbit. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children needs are met well, and their uniqueness is valued. The childminder takes steps to evaluate her service and continually improve through ongoing assessment, by being part of a childminding network.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop ongoing observational assessment to inform planning for each child's continuing development through play-based activities.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's needs are met well as the childminder strives to ensure that good care and education is offered to them. All the required documents are in place, including a record of children's attendance, parental agreements and children's individual progress reports. The childminder is part of the South Havering network for childminders and undertakes regular self-evaluation processes every ten weeks and regularly undertakes further training. Therefore, this supports the individual needs of the children. Parents are provided with good quality information about the childminding service and are well informed about their children's achievements and progress. Parents are encouraged to share what they know about their child when they first start to attend. Children are helped to stay safe and learn about appropriate behaviour, road safety, not to approach dogs in the street and not to go near water in the parks. All household members have undergone suitability checks and risk assessments are carried out regularly to ensure the safety and care of children. Children learn about health and hygiene through daily routines and are offered healthy nutritious snacks and drinks, meeting their dietary requirements. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and procedures.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are progressing well towards the early learning goals and have good opportunities to learn and develop. The childminder is fully aware of each child's, individual needs and their progress is recorded, however, it is not fully used to inform further planning along the early learning goals. Children continue to be interested, excited and motivated to learn as they play with a wide range of resources available to them. They visit local toddler groups and socialise with other children, learning to share and take turns. Children use the bouncy castle, visit the park, exercise together, play in the garden, and take part in music and dance activities, all of which promote physical development. Children learn to communicate through constantly talking and being involved in discussions with the childminder and small babies, smile and babble. Children learning English as an additional language learn to speak it during everyday routine sand activities and, therefore, develop dual language skills. Children recognise letters and take part in writing and mark making activities appropriate for their age and stage of development. They learn about numbers through looking at and discussing number charts that are displayed. They count their shoes as they put them on and putting one arm and then two arms in their coats, therefore, they use constant reinforcement of numbers everyday. Children develop creative skills as they paint, use play dough, take part in water and sand activities, use glue and make things. Small babies develop their senses as they feel different textures and children play with dressing-up clothes and take part in role play activities. Children grow cress and plant seeds and take care of the pet rabbit, learning to show care and consideration for living things. Photographs show children taking part in: making bonfire models; cutting, sticking and gluing different coloured paper; collecting leaves and creating pictures with them; handling programmable toys; visiting the greengrocers; and looking through books.

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

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 has been no complaints made to Ofsted.

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.