

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	137644
Inspection date	19/06/2009
Inspector	Pauline Nazarkardeh
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).

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 has been registered since 1990. She lives with her husband and two grown up children in the London Borough of Brent. Childminding takes place in the living and kitchen/dining room, a bedroom is available for rest times. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for six children under eight at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding five children in the early years age group on a part time basis. The childminder is also registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is a member of the local childminding network and she holds a NVQ level 3 qualification in childminding practice.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding. Children's learning and welfare are very well promoted as the childminder has highly effective systems in place to deliver the curriculum and protect the children. A wide variety of activities and resources are accessible and this enables children to have fun and to make excellent progress in all areas of their development. The children's individual needs are identified and very well provided for by the childminder. She shows the capacity to make continuous improvement to the already high quality service.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- develop the system used to identify children's progress

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's enthusiasm and commitment to childminding means that all children are exceptionally well cared for and are making excellent progress in all areas of their development. She has extensive knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum(EYFS) and she has the skills to help children progress and achieve. The childminder puts her knowledge of the EYFS to good use in order to plan for each child and to help her to think about the next steps in the children's development. She completes regular written observations and takes photographs to identify the children's progress and achievements. This information is effectively linked to individual planning for each child, to identify the learning journey of children in her care.

Children's safety is very well promoted. The childminder carries out risk assessments in her home to identify and minimise all obvious safety hazards. She

supports children in their understanding of safety, for example children tidy toys away to avoid tripping hazards. In addition she talks to the children about road safety when they are out of the home. Fire fighting equipment is in place and the childminder has practised fire evacuation with the children.

Documentation is extremely well organised and there is a range of policies and procedures in place to support the childminding practice, which are shared with parents. The childminder has a written complaints procedure in place, meaning parents are fully aware of the procedure to follow if they have a concern about the provision. The childminder has an excellent knowledge of child protection issues and understands the importance of reporting any concerns. The childminder is very focused on the children's individual interests and abilities and she uses this information to plan exciting activities to help children make progress.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children benefit greatly from spending time in the exciting environment provided by the childminder. The play areas of her home and garden are organised to promote children's learning in all six areas. Children are respected as individuals and the childminder recognises the uniqueness of the children in her care. They enjoy showing their individual folder containing samples of their work and photographs of them and their friends in play situations both at home, in group settings and when on outings. This helps children feel valued, secure, and develops good self-esteem.

Children use their imagination well, they use resources well including the childminder's curtains and when creating the farm. Children are also learning about safety during imaginative play and talk in-depth about the need to wear seat belts when in the car. Daily opportunities for a walk outdoors in the fresh air and organised trips help children to learn about the world around them. When celebrating festivals they visit the local temple and the wall map is well used by the children who show great interest in different countries around the world. At this time they are able to pinpoint the places where they live and have travelled to. Children enjoy their time with the childminder and are really interested and involved in their play. Younger children in particular enjoy the range of visual toys and musical instruments available to them. They are developing close relationships with the older children who help the childminder tend to the needs of the baby showing care and affection.

Children's language is very well promoted by the childminder's excellent practice in developing children's spoken language and by the use of 'story sack' resources which help to develop children's love of books. The story the 'very hungry caterpillar' is a particular favourite of the children. They become engrossed in the story using props to show all the foods included in the story. Children are able to describe the changes from caterpillar to butterfly and talk excitably about letting the butterflies go free with the help of the childminder and their parents. They recall how they made their own caterpillars using sliced cucumber and get the photographs to show a record of their achievements.

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?	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	1

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	1
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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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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