

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	141248
Inspection date	13/01/2009
Inspector	Lynn Palumbo
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 has been registered since 1986. She lives with her husband and two sons in a three bedroom house in Walthamstow in the London borough of Waltham Forest. The kitchen/dining room, playroom and back room, which serves as the sleeping area, are easily accessible to children. A fully enclosed garden is available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years and of these, not more than four may be in the early years age group. The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder attends three local playgroups. She is a member of the National Childminding Association

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children greatly benefit from the warm and welcoming family home, where the friendly care the childminder provides enables them to feel secure to explore and learn. Children participate in a wide variety of fun activities both within and outside of the home, which ensures they make progress in all areas of their development. The childminder is beginning to self-evaluate her service and demonstrates a commitment to maintain continuous improvement. The effective relationships between parents ensure the children's individual needs are met, and an inclusive and welcoming service is provided by the childminder.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- improve the two way flow of information with parents to promote a shared understanding of children's individual needs and involve parents in practical ways to support their child's learning and development

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has an understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and guidance, and there are good systems in place for documenting children's progress and capabilities. She has started to evaluate her practice by identifying what she does well and the areas in which she needs to develop, for example, she is keen to provide parents with activities to complete at home for the benefit of the children's learning. In addition, recommendations from the previous report have been well met, for example, there is a suitable range of indoor and outdoor activities which challenge and support children's physical developments in place. The childminder has attended some training and has intentions to complete

courses to further benefit children's learning within her care. The childminder understands the importance of working closely with parents to ensure consistent and appropriate care is given to each child, for example, she ensures that she obtains all the relevant information from parents about their child's individual likes and interests. However, they are not given sufficient encouragement by the childminder to learn their child's stage of development and next steps for learning. The childminder is enthusiastic and committed to developing her service.

Children's welfare is important to the childminder as she maintains all the necessary records to ensure their well-being is safeguarded. The childminder has good knowledge of child protection issues and understands the procedure to follow to report concerns. The childminder ensures there are no obvious safety hazards for children in her home and garden, in order to keep them safe. She has in place appropriate fire detection and control equipment, for example, smoke detectors. She ensures children's health is promoted and takes necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate action when children are ill.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enthusiastically play in a well-organised and interesting environment where they can choose from accessible toys and initiate activities they are interested in, for example, making cups of tea and feeding their dolly at the home corner. Children are progressing in certain areas, such as, communication, literacy and language, where they demonstrate good levels of vocabulary as they join in with stories and anticipate events. In addition, they are progressing personally, socially and emotionally, they are sociable and learn to care for themselves and others, for example, they dress themselves, make friends with other children and collect their coats to prepare for play in the garden. Children have access to a number of resources and play materials, such as books, small figures, costumes and cooking activities, that reflect diversity and equality.

Children are learning to be aware of their own safety, for example, they know they must not talk to strangers when walking to playgroup. Children are learning to be healthy, for example, they wash their hands before they eat their snack. Furthermore, they enjoy a healthy snack, such as, cheese, raspberries and grapes, and they drink fresh water. Children are also learning what foods are good for them and which to avoid. Their health is further promoted as they have opportunities to enjoy exercise when playing in the recreational areas when they visit the parks. They also ride bikes, and explore soft play at the playgroup. Children are learning to manage their own behaviour, for example, they are reminded to say 'excuse me'. Praise and encouragement are used to enable children to demonstrate good levels of confidence and security.

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.	3

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?	3
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 received by 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.