

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	139874
<b>Inspection date</b>	06/02/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Carol Newman
<b>Type of setting</b>	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 1989. She lives with her family in Sutton in the London Borough of Sutton. The whole of the ground floor and one bedroom of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The childminder can walk to local schools to take and collect children. She attends a toddler group, childminder's drop-in and goes to the park with the children. The family have one pet cat.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently caring for one child in the early years age range, who attends on a part time basis. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. There are no accessibility issues.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children flourish in this caring childminding home. They become part of the family and the welfare and learning needs of each individual child are effectively met. The childminder is beginning to use self-evaluation to appraise and develop her practice. She is keen to maintain and continuously improve the care and learning that she makes available to the children.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- access training made available by the local authority and other sources to further improve knowledge and understanding for the benefit of the children.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- maintain a record of risk assessment that clearly states when it was carried out, by whom, the date of review and any action taken following a review or incident

20/02/2009

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is guided by a set of policies and procedures that she discusses with parents and overall, record keeping is in place and suitable maintained. However, some records are not clearly dated so that they form an accurate account of the care on offer to the children.

Daily risk assessments help to keep children safe and toys are checked regularly to ensure they are suitable for children's use. Children can access a range of well stored resources for themselves and toys are regularly rotated to maintain the children's interest.

The childminder is very experienced. She has familiarised herself with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage through research on the internet and discussion with other providers. However, she has not accessed any training courses in this area, to further develop her knowledge for the benefit of the children in her care.

The childminder is aware that there are always areas of provision that can be further improved and she has begun to use self-evaluation to identify her strengths and ways in which she can develop her practice. She encourages very good relationships with parents and other carers. Parents are kept informed of children's activities and progress through the folder that they take home at the weekends. The childminder has a good understanding of how to develop links with other providers and outside agencies and she recognises how this promotes consistency for the children. All children are welcomed into the childminder's home and she ensures she meets their individual needs and pays regard to parent's wishes.

The childminder clearly understands her responsibilities if she has any safeguarding concerns about the children in her care. This ensures she quickly recognises when a child is at risk of harm and can act in the child's best interest.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Children play and learn happily in this safe and welcoming home. They learn how to keep themselves safe through respecting the house rules and they know how to cross the road carefully. The childminder carries out risk assessments of the premises on a daily basis and procedures are in place to risk assess outings. However, a record of when risk assessments are carried out, by whom, the date of review and any action taken following a review or incident, is not maintained and this is a breach of requirements.

Children benefit from a wealth of healthy practices, such as effective nappy changing and hand washing procedures, that teach them about good hygiene routines. Plenty of activities in the fresh air contribute to children's health and well being. The childminder requests written parental permission to seek emergency medical treatment and she holds a current first aid certificate. This means she is able to take appropriate action in the event of an accident.

The childminder offers very good support to children as they create their own play scenarios. For example, she chats to the children about boats while they pretend the storage basket is a boat. She plans the day around the children's interests and planning demonstrates that children experience activities that cover all six areas of learning. The childminder observes the children regularly and she uses these observations to plan children's individual next steps. She recognises the

uniqueness of each child and she ensures she meets their individual needs. The childminder calmly supports children to share and take turns and she uses lots of praise and encouragement to promote good behaviour.

The childminder asks open ended questions such as 'what's missing' to encourage children to think for themselves. Children enjoy stories and jigsaws and the childminder ensures children have quiet and active times each day. They learn to name fruits and animals as they play with the childminder. The childminder takes children on regular walks where they discuss squirrels, dogs and trees to develop their understanding of the wider world.

## 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

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	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

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	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](http://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.