

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	140306
Inspection date	11/03/2009
Inspector	Liz Corr
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).

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 1994. She lives with her husband, adult son and daughter aged six years. They live in a four-bedroom house in the N8 area of the London borough of Haringey, close to parks and local drop-in groups. Children access the kitchen and toilet on the ground floor and the living room and childminder's bedroom on the first floor. A fully enclosed front and back garden are also available to children. The family have a 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 two may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding three children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. The provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are happy in the childminder's care. She is very aware of their individual needs and they receive good support from the childminder during activities. Children benefit from an inclusive environment as the childminder works well with parents to support their individual needs. The childminder has introduced systems to assess children's progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder has begun to introduce systems to evaluate her practice and identify improvements.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage guidance to record children's starting points, plan, monitor and assess their progress and to share information with parents
- provide confidential recording systems for complaints

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children feel secure in the childminder's care as she gets to know them well as individuals. They benefit from positive interaction during activities which promotes their interest and enjoyment. The childminder has introduced systems to assess children's learning using the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children are provided with a stimulating range of activities to help them make progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder records appropriate details of their individual health and backgrounds. However, there are no systems to record their developmental starting points to help assess their initial progress in her care. The childminder has organised books for each child with photographs of their interests and involvement in activities. She is currently organising systems to share written

records of children's daily achievements with parents.

The childminder has an organised approach to childminding. All documentation is readily available for inspection. Information is clearly displayed for parents including, how to make a complaint. However, the childminder has not developed confidential systems for recording complaints. The childminder has begun to evaluate her service in order to identify further improvements. She has considered the safety of children when visitors attend her setting and has introduced a visitors register and developed a policy to promote their safety. She has also identified that she will make further improvements by providing multi-cultural foods including, play food for imaginary play.

The childminder demonstrates a conscientious approach to safeguarding. She has developed thorough risk assessments for her premises and for a range of outings. Children are learning to keep safe as they regularly practise the emergency evacuation procedure with the childminder. They are protected from harm and abuse as the childminder has an effective understanding of her responsibility to record and report any child protection concerns.

Positive relationships have been established with parents/carers. Daily discussions take place to share information on children's daily progress. The childminder has developed good systems to support children during developmental changes and transition periods by working in partnership with parents. Feedback forms and thank you letters confirm that parents are pleased with the care their children receive.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enjoy their time at the setting and respond well to the childminder's positive approach. They benefit from a range of organised and child initiated play as well as planned trips to local places of interest. Trips to the local supermarket are made enjoyable as children are provided with toy shopping trolleys and a list of items to find with the childminder. Children play well together during activities. During a play dough activity they access a good range of rolling pins, moulds and cutters. Their interest is enhanced as the childminder joins in and they chat to her about colours, shapes and what they are making. They are praised for their achievements which helps promote their good behaviour. When occasional squabbles occur the childminder sensitively intervenes and helps provide solutions as well as encouraging children to share.

The childminder plans activities around children's interests. After observing the children's interest in a program about growing plants, the childminder organised an activity sowing seeds outdoors. The children enjoy setting the seeds in the earth and talking about what their seeds will look like when they are grown. The childminder supports their language and communication skills as she carefully listens to each child and talks to them throughout their activities.

Children are developing an understanding of healthy living as they learn about good hygiene. They wash their hands after playing outdoors and easily access the

sink and the paper towels using a step to reach the sink. Healthy meals and snacks promote their good health. Regular trips to the park and opportunities to play in the garden provide children with fresh air and opportunities to develop physical skills.

Children are cared for in an inclusive environment. The childminder demonstrates a secure knowledge of children's individual needs by getting to know their families well. They learn about the wider world as they access a good range of multicultural resources and celebrate cultural festivals including, Chinese New Year and Diwali. The childminder is keen to learn more about other religions and cultures and has recently purchased a book to help plan further activities to broaden children's awareness 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

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 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.