

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY317122
Inspection date	06/02/2009
Inspector	Marcia Robinson
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 was registered in 2006. She lives with her husband, two adult daughters, son aged 15 and daughter aged 12 years in the residential area of Beckton in the London borough of Newham. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding including the through lounge/dining room. A fully enclosed garden is available on the premises but it is not currently used for outdoor play. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There is currently one child on roll who is in the early years age range.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. The childminder does not sufficiently promote all aspects of children's welfare, learning and development. Children's health and safety is not promoted effectively in all areas and very little action has been taken to secure improvements since the last inspection. In addition to this, the childminder is in breach of specific legal requirements and not all documentation is well maintained to promote children's welfare, safety and well-being. The childminder does not monitor or evaluate the service that she provides, therefore has not identified the weaknesses. Ineffective links with parents and carers means that they are not involved enough in their children's care and education.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- develop knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and referral procedures including the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation made against the childminder or household members (Safeguarding and welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 13/03/2009
- develop knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements to ensure that children's learning and development are fully supported (Learning and development) 13/03/2009
- implement systems for the observation and assessment of children, ensure that these are used to ensure that children achieve as much as they can in relation to their starting points and capabilities (Learning and development) 13/03/2009

- keep an accurate record of the children's daily hours of attendance (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 13/03/2009
- obtain prior written permission before any medicine is administered (Promoting good health) (applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 13/03/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

There are no self-evaluation procedures in place in order to assess the service provided. The childminder has limited insight into the EYFS or the requirements, and, as a result, there are a number of breaches of regulation. The childminder has not been able to identify significant weaknesses in her practice. Courses undertaken, such as EYFS and safeguarding training, have been ineffective in providing sufficient knowledge and understanding of childminding. Safeguarding procedures are inadequate and fail to protect children because the childminder has a limited understanding of the signs and symptoms of child abuse. In addition, the childminder has insecure knowledge of the procedures to follow should she have concerns about children and her responses to what to do if allegations of abuse are made against herself or her co-childminders are not correct.

The childminder is in breach of some specific legal requirements. The childminder and all adult members of the household have completed suitability checks although, not all records are adequately maintained to ensure children's safety is fully protected. For example, the childminder does not accurately record the children's daily hours of attendance or obtain prior written permission from parents and carers before administering medication. The childminder does visual checks of the premises, although she fails to identify all potential risks to children and does not keep a record of risk assessments for her premises or for outings and visits. Therefore, she is unable to identify and quickly address potential hazards to the children. For example, electrical items in cupboards in the home and building materials such as large strips of wood in the garden are all easily accessible to the children. Furthermore, the childminder has not fitted the fire blanket in the kitchen, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Consequently, children's safety is not promoted effectively.

Relationships with parents and carers are basic. Although the childminder gives feedback at the end of each day, this is not supported by a two-way flow of information and knowledge about children's individual interests needs and home routines. For instance, the childminder does not ask questions to support her knowledge of children and their families. The childminder is unaware of the requirements involving written complaints, in addition parents have not been informed of how they can make a complaint.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's learning and development in the EYFS is ineffectively supported. Children enjoy warm and affectionate relationships with the childminder and her family, and, as a result, they are secure and confident. Children are happy to participate in the activities provided, including rattles and musical activity centres for younger children, but fewer resources and play materials to meet the needs of older children. Children have access to creative activities, outside the home, when they visit children's centres at least once a week for more varied experiences and activities. The childminder spends some time playing with the children but she demonstrates very little understanding of the areas of learning and, as a consequence, she does little to promote learning and development through play. In addition, the childminder has no awareness of the observation and assessment requirements and she demonstrates no knowledge of children's starting points or of the need to extend children's learning. Inclusion within the setting is not actively promoted because there are very few resources reflecting diversity and children have little opportunity to participate in activities where they can learn about other cultures.

Children's welfare is not effectively supported. Parents choose to provide their children's meals, which ensures any specific dietary needs and individual preferences are met. These are prepared and served appropriately by the childminder. Children do not learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe as the childminder does not practise the fire evacuation procedures with them although they learn about road safety when on outings. Management of behaviour is generally satisfactory, although the methods in place do not always support children in managing their own behaviour, for instance, the childminder does not focus on explaining to children why their behaviour might be inappropriate.

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?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	4
How well are children safeguarded?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	4
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	4
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	4
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	4
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	4

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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 13/03/2009
- devise a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 13/03/2009
- make sure that information about the activities the children will undertake and copies of the written statements of safeguarding procedures and complaints procedures including Ofsted's address are available to parents (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 13/03/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register 13/03/2009

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.