

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	101992
Inspection date	04/03/2009
Inspector	Caren Carpenter
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 1996. She lives with her husband and three adult children in a four bedroom house in the Cricklewood area within the London borough of Barnet. Children have access to the whole of the ground floor. There is an enclosed outdoor play area and there are no steps to the premises.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of two children under eight years at any one time and is currently caring for one child in the early years age group. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder takes and collects children from local schools.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children are happy and secure in the childminder's care because she recognises their individual needs and provide well for them. Good improvement has been made since the last inspection. Although, the children have access to some play resources, the childminder does not yet have secure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage to plan and evaluate activities to help children make good progress in their learning and development. However, the childminder has a positive attitude towards attending training to develop her knowledge and understanding of the six areas of learning in order to improve the play and learning experiences she provides for the children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- use observations of children's achievements to identify learning priorities and plan relevant experiences for the next stages in their development
- continue to develop knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, in regard to planning, assessment and the evaluation of activities
- involve parents more effectively in assessing children's starting points
- increase play resources to provide children with wider choices and sufficient challenge in their play
- ensure risk assessment includes any identified risk in the out door area.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded because all household members are suitably vetted. The childminder has a secure knowledge of how to safeguard children in her care and to promote their good health. For example, written policies and procedures reinforce her practice; she understands how to manage any child protection

concerns and follows good routines to protect children's health.

Children play safely, indoors because the childminder carries out regular risk assessments in all areas of her home to promote children's safety and records her findings. Although, she is aware that the garden cannot be used at present she has not included these details in her risk assessment.

The childminder has addressed all previous actions to improve the service offered to children and families. For example, the childminder now keeps accurate records of the children's individual details and has obtained written permission from parents for seeking medical emergency advice and treatment. In addition all required records for the safe and efficient management of the children are in place.

The childminder has not yet completed a written self-evaluation form, but is able to recognise her strengths and identify areas of her practice that she would like to develop for example, attending future training to gain more understanding in observing and assessing children's play experiences to identify their learning priorities to promote their learning and development.

Secure working relationships have been established between the childminder and parents. This helps to ensure continuity of care and to meet the needs of children. The childminder communicates verbally with parents about their children's developmental progress. The childminder provides good support for children with English as an additional language. For example, she makes them feel comfortable and communicates well with them in their home language, such as Arabic. This contributes to building their confidence and self-esteem. However, the childminder is not yet involving parents in assessing their children's capabilities and starting points to plan for their learning and development.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children spend their time happily engaged in play, enjoying warm and trusting relationships with the childminder. They receive plenty of individual attention because the childminder is responsive to their individual needs and inclusive approach.

The childminder offers support to the children and helps them to enjoy their learning by being involved in their play. For example, children enjoy their time completing simple puzzles, looking at books and colouring their favourite pictures. However, activities and resources do not provide sufficient challenges for the older and more able children to help them make good progress in their learning and development.

Children enjoy healthy and nutritious meals and snacks that support their individual dietary needs such as, rice, chicken, couscous and vegetables. In addition, they are offered a variety of fresh fruits daily and regular drinks at all times.

The childminder understands how to manage children's behaviour appropriately for example; she praises children's achievements promoting their confidence and self-esteem. She has built close and loving relationships with the children. As a result, children are happy and settled in her care.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
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?	3
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?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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 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.