

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY381685
Inspection date	05/03/2009
Inspector	Christine Bonnett
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 registered in 2008. She lives with her husband and two children aged eight and six years in Feltham, in the London borough of Hounslow. The whole of the ground floor of the house is mainly used for childminding with toilet facilities upstairs. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five 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 minding three children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The family have four cats.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder promotes the health, safety and developmental progress of all children within a clean and comfortable family home. Each child is respected as an individual and the childminder works closely with parents to ensure their particular needs are met. The childminder recognises the importance of evaluating her practice and striving for continuous improvement for the benefit of the children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop observation, assessment and planning skills to clearly identify each child's starting point and to effectively monitor their progress in all areas of learning
- develop systems to monitor the effectiveness of the provision and to clearly identify strengths and priorities for development for the benefit of the children.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is safety-conscious, she identifies and minimises potential hazards both indoors and out to safeguard the well-being of the children. She also has a good understanding of child protection matters. She is aware of the indicators of child abuse and the procedure to follow to report concerns. All the records and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) are maintained.

The childminder's practice is new, and consequently she is developing systems to self-evaluate her work effectively, as she appreciates the value to the children of

continual improvement. She has identified several areas that she wishes to develop, including her observation, assessment and planning skills. The childminder has implemented recommendations made at her registration visit that have had a positive impact on children's safety. These include relocating some potentially dangerous substances and obtaining a first aid certificate.

The childminder establishes close working relationships with parents. She makes time to discuss any important issues with them in relation to their child, including the child's developmental progress.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children laugh and have fun with the childminder. They are relaxed and content in her care as she offers warmth and kindness. She provides a balance of freely chosen and adult-led play activities to enable them to make progress in their learning, appropriate to their ability. Each child has a book containing photographs of them engaging in a range of stimulating and well-resourced activities, such as craftwork, making soap and feeding the ducks. The childminder has good knowledge of the six areas of learning and writes a caption under each picture to link it to a specific area. However, a system has yet to be devised to assess the child's level of achievement and identify the next steps in their unique learning journey to be able to clearly monitor the progress made.

Children's health is promoted as the home is clean with sufficient space for them to explore the play materials in comfort. Healthy and nutritious meals are served which take account of children's individual dietary needs. The childminder also protects the health of all the children in her care by ensuring those who are ill or infectious are excluded. In addition, she acts in accordance with the requirements of the EYFS, and advice given by the Health Protection Agency, if it is believed a child has a notifiable illness.

Children's behaviour is managed using age appropriate and positive methods. The rules of the house, such as treating everyone and their property with respect, become familiar to them as they are reinforced with gentle reminders. This enables children to develop a sense of security within the known boundaries.

Because the children attend on a part-time basis, the childminder is able to offer individual attention to each of them at some point during the day. The children enjoy this time with her and special activities are carried out, such as making a model of a hot air balloon with papier-mâché. They also particularly like squealing with pleasure as they sit on her lap and sing along to 'Row, row, row your boat'.

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:

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:

- devise and implement a written policy and procedure to be followed in relation to safeguarding children (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children) 06/04/2009

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 above. 06/04/2009

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 registration

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.