

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	116050
Inspection date	01/06/2009
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 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 1993. She lives with her partner and child aged 10 years in Chiswick, in the London borough of Hounslow. The ground floor of the house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

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 minding two children in this age group. She is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends local parent and toddler groups. The family has no pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The childminder treats all children with kindness within a safe and clean family home. She finds out all about the individual needs of each child to make sure that the care she gives is appropriate and consistent with that given by the parents. Children make progress in their learning and development because of the range of play experiences available for them. The childminder understands the benefit of continuously improving her practice 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:

- gain knowledge of the six areas of learning to provide a rich and varied environment to further support children's learning and development
- develop observation and assessment skills to clearly identify each child's starting point to effectively monitor their progress in all areas of learning.

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

- maintain a record of risk assessments clearly stating when they were carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Suitable premises, environment & equipment).

01/07/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder works effectively with parents. She offers a flexible service to support them in emergency situations. She also ensures that all aspects of their

child's welfare and development are discussed with them to ensure their needs are provided for.

The childminder gives children's safety high priority. She conducts emergency evacuation drills regularly to enable them to learn how to help keep themselves safe. She also teaches children how and where to cross roads safely. The childminder has a good knowledge of child protection matters, and the procedure for reporting concerns. Although visual safety checks on all areas of her home and garden are carried out daily to identify and minimise potential hazards to children, a record of risk assessments, noting when they were carried out, is not maintained. This is a breach of a specific legal requirement.

The childminder acknowledges that however much experience she has in childminding, there is always scope for improvement. She is able to identify areas of good practice in her work with the children, and those that need enhancing and updating. Since the last inspection she has improved the management of her provision, and consequently the well-being of the children, by ensuring that all the required information is entered in the attendance register and accident book. In addition, she now holds a current first aid certificate to significantly help safeguard the children in her care.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's independence is fostered as they have ready access to a range of fun and stimulating play materials including a good selection of books. Numeracy and mark making skills are routinely encouraged, and their future economic well-being is promoted as they practise operating simple programmes on a computer. Therefore, children make suitable progress in their learning and development. However, although the childminder observes the children to gauge their level of attainment, systems are not in place to link the findings into the six areas of learning or to identify clearly the next step in each child's individual learning journey. Consequently, children's progress towards the Early Learning Goals cannot be demonstrated or monitored.

The childminder promotes a healthy lifestyle in children as they regularly walk to schools and enjoy visiting Chiswick Park and playing in the well-resourced back garden. They also benefit from healthy and nutritious meals that take account of any particular dietary needs. Fish, chicken and pasta are included on the menu. Fresh fruit is also provided along with plenty of water or juice to drink.

Children are relaxed and content in the childminder's care. She manages any behavioural difficulties using positive and age appropriate methods. This includes encouraging the children to be kind to each other and to share and take turns. This enables all children to develop a sense of belonging and good self-esteem.

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?	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?	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?	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?	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?	2
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?	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

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