

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	136750
Inspection date	04/08/2009
Inspector	Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi
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 1992. She lives with her two adult daughters. They live in a four bedroom house in a residential area of Beckenham in Kent. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is a garden available for outside play. The family have a dog.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for six children under eight years old. There are currently three children in the early years age group on roll. She also cares for one child over eight years old.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She has a relevant childcare qualification.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. The childminder promotes all aspects of children's welfare and development well. Children are safe and well cared, and make good progress in their learning. The childminder offers a welcoming, inclusive environment and builds strong partnerships with parents that ensure children's individual needs are met. She regularly reviews the service she provides and takes effective steps to continually develop and improve her practice.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure observations and assessments of children's achievements are used to identify next steps for their development and plan relevant learning experiences for each child

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is well organised and keeps all of the required documentation that contributes to children's health and well-being and safeguards their welfare. Policies and procedures are clear, comprehensive and up to date. The childminder makes good use of local training opportunities to continually develop her knowledge and skills, for instance she has attended courses on safeguarding, self-evaluation, and observations and assessments. She constantly evaluates and reflects on her provision and actively seeks feedback from parents as part of this process. Action taken is effective in improving outcomes for children, for instance, the childminder has made changes to the layout of the playroom so that children have more space to play and can readily access a wide variety of resources. The childminder works closely with parents. They have access to a wide range of relevant information about the setting through her portfolio. Parents are kept well

informed on a day to day basis through verbal discussions and a contact book, which helps ensure children experience consistent care that is appropriate to their needs.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are cared for in a safe, well maintained environment. They move freely and safely around the home, and independently choose from a wide range of good quality toys and play materials that are suitable for their age and needs. The childminder gives a high priority to their safety and makes sure any necessary precautions are in place. Children learn to keep themselves safe when they remember that the green light at the crossing means 'go' and red means 'stop', and when they take part in regular fire evacuation practises. They learn simple good hygiene practices when they wash their hands before they eat and use disposable paper towels to dry them. Children eagerly choose fruit for a snack, and they enjoy playing outside in the garden every day, as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They respond well to the childminder's warm, affectionate approach and the calm, consistent environment she provides, which helps them behave well. They take part in a good variety of activities and experiences that support their development and help them make steady progress towards the early learning goals. They benefit from regular outings, to socialise with other children at a toddler group, to choose books or listen to stories at the library, or to run around in the park. At the childminder's home, they enjoy cuddling up for a favourite story or finding the right pieces to finish a puzzle. The childminder supports their learning sensitively as they play, giving lots of praise and encouraging them to repeat new words, count their grapes at snack time, or talk about the pictures in their book. Children explore the world around them when they help plant fruit trees and later share some the fruit that grows, or when they take part in a project to clean the pond and discover the different creatures living in the water. The childminder knows children well and regularly observes their achievements. However, her system for making assessments of children's progress and using observations to plan for the next steps in their learning is not yet fully in place.

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
---	-----

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