

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY380207
Inspection date	09/09/2009
Inspector	Carol Newman

Type of setting	Childminder
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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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 2008. She lives with her adult family in Wandsworth in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the local parent/toddler group, takes children to the local library and the park. All facilities are within walking distance. The childminder has two cats.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years, of whom, three may be in the early years age group. She is currently caring for four children, all in the early years age group, who attend on a full-time and part-time basis. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is registered to provide overnight care.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are settled, well cared for and making good progress. They are fully integrated into the provision and children's individual needs are recognised and successfully met. The childminder is beginning to use self-evaluation to continually develop her practice for the children's benefit. She works very well with parents and other provisions to ensure continuity of care.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure all risk assessments clearly state when they were carried out and the date of review.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is continually reviewing her provision to develop effective practices for the benefit of all the children in her care. She is beginning to evaluate her strengths and areas for improvement and she constantly strives to attend training to develop her skills.

The childminder uses risk assessment well to ensure her provision is safe, so that children are able to thrive. She has a good understanding of safeguarding issues and knows what steps to take if she has concerns about any child in her care.

Partnerships with parents are strong and the childminder ensures parents are well

informed about their child's day. The childminder is treated as extended family for children whose grandparents do not live nearby and children often visit socially outside of childminding hours. This demonstrates the strong, supportive relationships the childminder has with the families. The childminder liaises with other settings to ensure her provision is complementary and this is an area that she has identified for further development.

The childminder is keen to maintain the high standards of care and learning that she currently provides. She is guided by a set of written policies and procedures and her record keeping is well maintained. The childminder makes good use of local resources to enhance the children's experiences.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are given choices about their activities and the childminder offers them good support to access resources and construct their play. She engages the children in conversation to encourage their language skills and develop their interests. For example, one child plays quietly and sings to himself and another engages in more active play. Babies squeal with delight as they are encouraged to dance to music and all children work together to complete puzzles and tidy away.

Children benefit from a range of planned activities that cover all six areas of learning. For example, they explore the seasons, learn to mark making using the 'Thomas Aqua Draw' and visit the garden centre and the library for 'rhythm and rhyme' time. The childminder makes good observations of the children's activities and she uses them to identify the next steps in the children's learning. Examples of children's work are saved in the children's individual files and these demonstrate children's progress. The quality of learning and development, both indoors and outdoors, effectively meets the individual children's needs.

The childminder carries out regular risk assessments of her premises and outings, to ensure children are safe in her provision. However, the childminder has not noted the dates they were completed or dates of review and this is a breach of requirements. Regular emergency evacuation practices are carried out on a monthly basis and fire exits are plainly marked and kept clear at all times. This helps children to learn how to keep themselves safe. Children are regularly reminded of the house rules to ensure they play safely and the childminder uses suitable behaviour management strategies to teach children right from wrong. She is calm and consistent in her practice.

Children benefit from a selection of healthy meals and snacks, provided by the childminder, throughout the day. Children thoroughly enjoy several different varieties of fruit for snacks and they have free access to fresh drinking water. Parents provide food for young babies and this is suitably stored.

Children use paper towels and liquid soap for hand washing and this is monitored by the childminder to ensure children learn good hygiene practices. Written permission to seek emergency medical treatment is in place for all children and the

childminder follows effective procedures when administering medication.

Children play well together and the childminder shares her time effectively so that they all feel valued and welcome in this multi-cultural provision.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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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