

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY383903
Inspection date	03/11/2009
Inspector	Susan Mary Deadman
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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 eight year old daughter in a third floor maisonette in Brentford in the London Borough of Hounslow. Access to the home is via a lift or three flights of stairs. The living room and one bedroom in the home are used for childminding. There is no access to an outdoor area but children are regularly taken to the local park.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the voluntary and compulsory part of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time, all of whom may be in the early years age group. There are currently four children in this age group who attend on a part time basis.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are confident in the care of the childminder who has a clear understanding of their individual needs. The childminder provides an inclusive environment and works closely with parents. She has a suitable understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework which enables her to promote children's development and welfare. Self-evaluation is limited which has resulted in breaches of regulation although these have minimal effect on the children. The childminder demonstrates the ability to maintain continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- request written parental permission for the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and welfare) 04/12/2009
- maintain a record of particular aspects identified during risk assessments and include when and by whom they have been checked (Safeguarding and welfare). 04/12/2009

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

- extend the system for monitoring children's progress to ensure they participate in activities which cover each of the six early learning goals; assessment should show the next planned steps for children's learning
- obtain parental written permission for outings.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is aware of the importance of safeguarding children and conducts regular risk assessments which promote children's safety whilst in the home and during outings. However, a record of these assessments is not maintained which is a breach of regulations. The written health and safety policy provides parents with information relating to how she keeps their child safe for example, through regular testing of fire alarms and the removal of hazardous items from children's reach.

The childminder has the majority of the required documentation in place. She accurately records children's daily attendance and has parents contact details. At the start of the placement she talks to parents about her practice and shows them her policies and procedures. The childminder talks to parents about her emergency medical procedure and they verbally agree for her to contact them and take the child to hospital if required. However, she has not requested their written permission to do this, which is a breach of regulations. Parents give their verbal consent for the childminder to take children on various outings. However, the childminder does not further secure this partnership by gaining their written consent.

The childminder has a secure relationship with parents who are happy with the care their children receive. They are particularly grateful for her advice and support which promotes continuity of care. Parents are made welcome in the setting and given time to talk about their child's needs and share information. Children benefit from the childminder's language skills which enable her to talk to children in fluent English and also Somali if required, thus promoting their language development and feeling of security.

The childminder has a suitable range of resources to promote children's learning and development. For example, there is a good range of baby toys which the childminder places in easy access for children to enjoy. Other play items include puzzles, dolls, cars, drawing board and art and craft items.

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

Children are greeted warmly on arrival at the setting by the childminder and it is evident that minded children are an integral part of her family. Mobile babies are immediately at ease as they excitedly shake the home-made musical instruments and crawl around chasing after a rolling ball. They are confident as they scoot around the lounge and hallway and show excitement and interest in their activities. The childminder supports children's increasing mobility as she provides appropriate resources which meet their individual needs. For example, children who are in the pre-walking stage are encouraged to stand by sturdy play equipment which offers them colourful interactive play.

The childminder promotes children's language skills and encourages children to

make sounds by copying their baby babble. They interact very well to this stimulation beaming at others in the room as they repeat the sounds. Children have access to age-appropriate books which provide them with further communication opportunities as the childminder talks to them about the pictures on each page. The childminder has some resources which reflect differences and talks to the children about various festivals which are celebrated by others.

The childminder has started to record observations on the children's activity and although not included in this record, was able to identify the next planned steps for each child's development. Although there is a suitable range of toys and planned outings there are no systems in place to ensure that all areas of learning are covered through these. The childminder shares the records of children's development with parents which provides them with greater understanding of their child's progress.

Although children do not have access to a garden the childminder ensures they receive daily fresh air and exercise. She makes good use of local parks and other facilities to promote children's physical well-being. Children's health is also promoted through good hygiene routines. For example, each child has their own towel which is stored on a separate peg in the bathroom; this minimises the spread of infection.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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