

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY384893
Inspection date	01/03/2010
Inspector	Angela Ramsey
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 March 2009. She lives in a three bed roomed town house in the London borough of Greenwich with her husband and two children aged 15 and five years. The whole of the ground floor and the living room on the first floor are used for childminding purposes. There is a garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for four children under eight years, of these, not more than three may be in the early years age group, and of these, not more than one may be under one year at any one time. She is currently caring for two children in the early years age range.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder holds a National Vocational Qualification level 2 in Childcare and Education and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children's welfare and safety is well safeguarded due to the comprehensive arrangements that manage and eliminate dangers. Children's learning is supported through the providing of a varied range of resources that are challenging and ensure children make progress in their learning and development. Systems are in place to evaluate the provision and plans for future development are likely to bring improvements to the service and outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure parental permission for emergency medical treatment or advice is obtained (safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)
- 05/03/2010

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

- ensure fire blanket is easily accessible
- continue to develop the observation, assessment and implementation of children's next steps system, by using the EYFS guidance, to ensure all aspects are effectively covered and planned for

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has good knowledge and understanding of her role in protecting children. She is aware of the possible signs of abuse and neglect. She is aware of the importance of recording her concerns and who to contact if a referral needs to be made. Well documented policies and procedures have been devised and children's records are well kept. Risk assessments are conducted and the childminder takes effective steps to prevent accidents. Regular fire drills are carried out with the children and details logged. However although a fire blanket has been obtained this has not been fixed to a suitable position to ensure easy access.

Through discussions with parents the childminder actively promotes equality and diversity. She knows the background and abilities of each child and these are respected. Working closely with parents she becomes familiar with each child's individual needs such as likes and dislikes with regards to food and sleep routines. The childminder also discusses children's development. As children progress parents are kept informed about their child's achievements. Each day the childminder completes a journal, which details what their child has played with and what they have had to eat and drink. Systems to observe and assess children's progress are in place, however, these need further development as they do not sufficiently identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences for each child.

Partnerships with parents have been established and are mutually supportive. The childminder shares her knowledge and expertise so that parents are involved in supporting children's learning and development. She understands and acknowledges the importance of working with other professionals. Parents are provided with copies of her policies and procedures, which support the service provided. The childminder has a clear commitment to her professional development. Effective links have been formed with local authority advisors who provide information with regards to up and coming training which the childminder attends to develop her skills and improve her practice. Steps have also been taken to evaluate and monitor the provision which identifies areas for improvement for children's welfare, learning and development.

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

Children are settled, happy and at ease in the childminder's care. They have formed firm attachments to the childminder and look to her for comfort and reassurance. The childminder has a dedicated play room which is cosy, child friendly and resources are easily accessible. Photographs of the children engaged in activities are also displayed.

The childminder is developing her understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. She has started to observe and assess children's progress and plans activities which will enable children to make progress in their learning and

development. Activities are planned and include home based activities and trips to local parks and under five groups. Young children have good opportunities to explore bright and colourful activity centres and baby gyms. Children's language skills are encouraged as the childminder talks to the children, shares books with them and engages them in singing.

Children's good health and well being is supported and positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection. Bottles are sterilised and nappy changing procedures are hygienic. Parents have the option of providing meals for their children. However should parents choose the childminder has devised menus which include healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. Visits to local parks and childminding groups enable children to practise improving control and co ordination skills as they can run, climb on apparatus and ride tricycles and scooters.

Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder has up to date knowledge of first aid. She has a written procedure in place in the event of a child becoming ill and obtains written consent to administer medicines to children. Records are also kept of any medicines administered. Although the childminder has permission forms which request parental permission to seek emergency advice or treatment, these have not been given to parents for their perusal.

Children's behaviour is appropriately supported. If required the techniques used are suitable for the age and stage of children's development. For example, distraction and explaining to children in language they understand quells unwanted behaviour. The childminder is a good role model for children and praises good behaviour.

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

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