

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	153884
Inspection date	14/06/2010
Inspector	Sandra Patricia Jeffrey
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 has been registered since 2001. She lives with her husband and three sons aged 19, 14 and five years. Their house is situated in the London borough of Merton, a few minutes walk from local shops, schools, toddler groups and the Mitcham Tramway. All rooms are used for childminding except for the master bedroom. There is also a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The family have no pets.

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 also offers care to older children. The provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. Three children in the early years age range were on roll at the time of the inspection. The childminder is a member of the Merton childminding association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder plans a range of activities and opportunities for the individual children in her care, which helps them make sound progress in their development. All children are welcome in the setting and the childminder is committed to providing a fully inclusive provision. Close partnerships with parents are established and generally suitable communication systems are in place. The childminder is developing her self-evaluation skills to enable her to assess the service she provides and, therefore, develop her practice further.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure prior written permission is obtained from parents for the administration of each and every medicine before it is given (Promoting good health) 28/06/2010
- provide parents with the information in relation to the procedure to be followed in the event of a child going missing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 28/06/2010

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

- ensure regular evacuation drills are carried out and details recorded in a fire log book of any problems encountered and how they were resolved in a fire log book.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a satisfactory understanding of the procedures to be followed to safeguard children and knows how to make a referral if she is worried about a child in her care. The childminder gives priority to keeping children safe and carries out regular risk assessments to reduce potential hazards in the home and when taking part in outings. However, the childminder does not ensure that regular evacuation drills are carried out with the children to ensure they are familiar with the procedure in the event of an emergency. This does not promote children's safety fully. The childminder holds a valid paediatric first aid certificate and has obtained written parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. However, the childminder has not ensured that prior written permission is obtained from parents for the administration of medicine. This does not promote the wellbeing of the children. Clear and accurate records detailing the administering of these medicines and accidents are, however, well maintained. Children benefit from a well organised, safe and secure home environment and have access to a variety of clean and well maintained resources to support their play and learning. The childminder is aware of the benefits of self-evaluation and of continuity improving her knowledge and skills by making use of training opportunities.

The childminder builds close partnerships with parents to help her gain an understanding of each child's needs. As a result, children are very settled and secure in the care of the childminder. Parents have access to information about the setting, including written policies and procedures. They have not, however, been made aware of the procedure to be followed in the event of a child going missing. The childminder is aware of the need to build effective partnerships with other providers if children attend other settings who are also delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

Children are happy and settled in the care of the childminder, who is attentive to their needs and has a caring disposition. Children are confident and secure in their relationship with the childminder which means they are able to develop confidence in their surroundings. The childminder knows the children well and ensures that she provides them with a relaxed and secure setting in which they can play and learn in comfort. Young children learn how to keep themselves safe, with the support of the childminder. She talks to them about possible dangers and hazards to be aware of within their daily routine, for example road safety issues when collecting older children from school. Young children show they feel safe as they respond to the happy and relaxed atmosphere that is evident in the setting. Children clearly enjoy their time at the setting and receive plenty of attention, as the childminder listens attentively and responds warmly to them. Children are actively encouraged to develop healthy lifestyles and to enjoy a healthy and

nutritious diet, in close consultation with parents. Children enjoy fresh air and regular exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle and take part in daily trips, walking to local schools and facilities in the local community.

The children take part in a variety of activities and experiences that support their learning and development and confidently move in and around the home enjoying the age appropriate resources that are made freely accessible to them. The childminder makes regular observations of children's achievements and uses these to plan future experiences for children, taking into account their interests and needs. There are opportunities for children to learn about the world around them and to develop skills for the future as they take part in trips within the local community and to local children's groups. They have opportunities to socialise with other children and to develop skills such as sharing and taking turns and are encouraged to respect differences and to show consideration to others. Children are happy and are gaining confidence and self-esteem in the setting, where they are well cared for and occupied throughout the day.

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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