

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY405893
Inspection date	20/07/2010
Inspector	S Campbell
Type of setting	Childminder

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It rates council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

Royal Exchange Buildings
St Ann's Square
Manchester
M2 7LA

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2010

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 2010. She lives with her daughter aged five in a residential area of Hornchurch, Essex in the London borough of Havering. The whole ground floor, with the exception of the kitchen and daughter's bedroom, is used for childminding. A fully enclosed garden is available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, of these three may be in the early years age range. The childminder currently has two children in the early years age group on roll. She also provides care for children in the later years. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.

The family have two cats. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA) and she holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The children are happy and well settled. They are progressing very well in their learning and development. The childminder gathers required information about children's individual needs and interests to ensure no child is disadvantaged while in her care. The childminder demonstrates a positive attitude to self-evaluation and maintains a good dialogue with parents to ensure children's welfare, learning and development is effectively supported. The childminder has good organisational skills and she ensures required documentation is shared with parents to promote continuity of care and children's well-being.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop further procedures to ensure links are made with other providers to effectively support children's learning
- develop further procedures to ensure all children's developmental records are consistently maintained to effectively support their learning and development.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's welfare and safety is promoted very well. The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding issues and procedures. Children's welfare is further promoted because the childminder ensures required documentation is in place and well maintained. The childminder is professional in her approach to childminding and she has implemented a number of policies and procedures to promote children's well-being.

The children are cared for in a safe and secure environment because the childminder undertakes regular risk assessments for indoors, outdoors and outings. She ensures children are well supervised during the day and a record of visitors is maintained. Each child's file contains detailed information to enable the childminder to act in their best interest in the event of an emergency. She gives high regard for children's safety and photos of parents and named person/s authorised to collect children is in place. This ensures children are collected by known and approved adults.

The childminder has developed good relationships with parents. She keeps parents up-to-date about their children's progress and daily routine through a daily diary, discussions and text messages. However, procedures have yet to be fully developed to ensure links are made with other providers to effectively support all children's learning. The childminder has a positive attitude towards equality and diversity, with a developing range of resources and activities.

The childminder has successfully completed required courses and plans to further develop her knowledge by attending the Early Years Foundation degree. This will enable her to further promote the outcomes for all children. The childminder has a clear vision for the future and this is supported with her self-evaluation, enabling her to set realistic targets to further promote the outcomes for children, such as developing resources, a parent questionnaire and building on resources that reflect positive images.

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

The childminder gives good support to help babies explore and learn in an environment that is bright and child centred. The organisation of the day enables the childminder to spend individual time with children to effectively support their learning and development. The childminder has developed good relationships with children and they benefit from close interactions, such as cuddles.

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and as a result, children are making progress in all areas of their learning. She carries out detailed systematic observations to enable her to effectively track children's progress towards the early learning goals. However, procedures have yet to be fully developed to ensure the undertaking of observations is regularly carried out for all children. The childminder obtains detailed information about children's starting points to enable her to effectively build on what children already know. The childminder has a good understanding of child development and children's learning journal clearly identifies their next steps to promote their learning.

The childminder carries out long and short term planning to ensure children are offered a varied range of learning experiences, for example, exploring different sounds, using malleable materials and sensory toys. The children engage in a good range of stimulating toys that are age appropriate and challenging. They benefit from regular outings within the local community, for example, feeding ducks at the

local park and Kids Space, a soft play area. Babies happily babble throughout the day and the childminder consistently talks to children to promote their language development. Additionally, the childminder sings songs and reads stories to children to further promote their communication skills. Younger children play with stacking rings and pop-up toys, enabling them to develop early problem solving skills. Through practical situations, the childminder introduces children to numbers by singing songs and counting everyday objects. Children's fine and gross motor skills are developing very well because the childminder provides opportunities for children to use large outdoor equipment and small objects, such as attempting to feed themselves and push button toys. The children are confident in their environment and they attend local community groups to enable them to interact with their peers and others.

The childminder carries out regular fire drills. This helps children become familiar with the procedures so they learn how to leave the premises quickly and safely. The childminder effectively promotes children's welfare because at point of enrolment she undertakes individual risk assessments to ensure all children's individual needs are effectively met. She ensures appropriate equipment is in place, such as the use of appropriate car seats to transport children. The children are cared for in a clean and well maintained environment. From an early age, children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through effective daily routines to minimise the spread of cross infection, such as using wipes at appropriate times.

The childminder provides meals for the older children. They receive nutritious meals and snacks, enabling them to develop healthy eating habits. The weekly menu is displayed for parents to see and includes a varied range of home cooked meals, such as beef baps, roast chicken and oven baked fish pie. The children benefit from lots of praise and encouragement. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of using appropriate strategies to manage children's behaviour according to their age and stage of development. Overall, children receive lots of warmth and affection, which supports their emotional well-being and allows them to have a strong sense of belonging.

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
--	---

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

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