

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY361903
Inspection date	01/12/2010
Inspector	Natasha Parsons

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 2007. She lives with her husband and two children in Woodford Green in the London borough of Redbridge. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register, to care for a maximum of six children at any one time, three of whom can be in the early years age range. When working with an assistant this total is increased to eight children. Currently there is one child on roll in the early years age range.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Appropriate knowledge of each child's needs ensures that children's welfare and learning needs are met, although there are limited observations made of children's progress. Children are kept safe, and have a secure relationship with the childminder and her family. The partnership with parents is developing which helps to ensure that the needs of all children are met. Children make satisfactory progress, given their age, ability and starting points. Self-evaluation undertaken by the provider ensures that priorities for development are identified and responded to, resulting in a service that responds to children's and families' needs.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- promote children's learning through the use of observation in different situations and plan for their next steps
- develop the planning for outdoor activities to include opportunities throughout the year for exploring outdoor environments and developing children's physical skills.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

There are acceptable procedures in place ensuring that children are safeguarded and protected. The childminder knows what action to take if concerned about a child and would follow her safeguarding policy resulting in a concern being quickly acted upon. Her safeguarding knowledge is supported through ongoing training and her previous work as a foster parent. The childminder's documentation is accessible, organised and confidentially stored. Children are closely supervised when in the home and on outings, and are kept safe in the car with the use of

appropriate booster and car seats. The childminder holds a suitable and current first aid qualification. Children are kept safe in a secure, welcoming and organised home. Risk assessments, completed for the home and outings, further support children's safety.

The childminder has only recently returned to childminding. She has begun the process of self evaluation leading to improvement and has identified the areas she needs to develop to benefit both her practice and service. The areas identified for development include aspects of organisation, leadership and management to improve her service for the children and families and reflect the findings at inspection.

Children benefit from the individual attention and care they receive and enjoy being welcomed into the childminder's home by all members of the family. They have space to move and explore, while being closely supervised, taking account of their age and developmental stage.

The childminder's service is inclusive and is accessible to all within the community. Care is taken to form sound partnerships with parents; this ensures the ongoing exchange of information about children through daily discussion and the use of text messages. Parents are provided with satisfactory information about the setting and are encouraged to share information about their children, informing the childminder about children's individual needs. The childminder seeks to find the most effective way of working with parents and carries out their wishes and requests. The children in her care do not currently access any other early years provision and have no other professionals involved in their care. However, the childminder has a satisfactory understanding of how to develop suitable links to promote continuity in care for the children with other professionals.

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

Children have formed secure attachments to the childminder and other family members and enjoy their time in the home. They make steady progress in their learning. Limited and infrequent observations take place, although these are shared with parents and include the use of some photographs. Children benefit from a routine that meets their care needs while spending appropriate time at home and in childcare groups. Play materials are generally sufficient. Children can self select and are well supervised when playing. The childminder is committed to extend the range of play materials to extend children's learning. The daily routine meets children's care and education needs, their physical needs are promoted when they are provided with opportunities to move, run and explore outside and at groups, when they use slides and soft play. Children are helped to feel safe as they receive much individual support from the childminder and know the childminder's husband, who is her assistant, and adult daughter. All the adults play with the children, showing them toys and interacting in a positive and responsive manner.

Children are learning about the community around them when they attend local

groups, parks and use shops in the local community. Children behave well, and are praised for their efforts; they enjoy exploring texture when they paint their hands and make handprints. Children use the garden in warmer weather only, although they have opportunities to go out all through the year for walks in the locality. Outdoor activities are not well planned for throughout the year, which results in children's physical skills and planned opportunities to explore the environment being limited. Children are praised for their efforts and this promotes their good behaviour and self esteem. They have a suitable range of experiences provided for them that help them to develop their skills, and the childminder knows how to extend and develop children's play to help them develop skills for the future.

Effective hygiene practices, including those for nappy changes and the use of individual cots and bedding promote children's health. Children benefit daily from freshly meals cooked and they enjoy eating with family members in a relaxed manner.

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

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
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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

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