

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY307917
Inspection date	14/11/2010
Inspector	Marilyn Peacock

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.

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Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 2005. She lives with her three children aged thirteen and six years and baby of eighteen months in a two bedroom apartment in Romford, in the London Borough of Havering. Access to the home is via a lift or several flights of stairs and the whole of the premises is used for childminding. The setting is within walking distance to the local shops, park, schools and public transport links. The children do not have access to a garden area but the childminder takes them daily to the local park or children's centre to play. The family have no pets.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of two children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than two may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding two children in this age group after school only. She also offers care to children aged over five years to eleven years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There were no children present during this inspection.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has started to evaluate her childcare practice and is able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of her provision. She demonstrates a positive commitment to continual development of her service to improve outcomes for children. Documentation shows that children are making suitable progress on their learning journeys. The partnership with parents is developing well and information is shared regularly to ensure consistency of care. Records and procedure meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation stage apart from one omission.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- make sure risk assessments identify aspects of the provision that need to be checked on a regular basis; maintain a record of these particular aspects and when and by whom they have been checked. 16/02/2011

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

- develop planning further to ensure children have access to activities which cover all areas of learning effectively

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Appropriate steps are taken by the childminder to ensure that the children in her care are suitably safeguarded. She has a satisfactory understanding of child protection issues, knows the signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect and is aware of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder takes reasonable precautions to keep them safe. Outings are fully risk assessed before each outing to ensure children safety when away from the setting. There are basic written risk assessments of the home in place, but they do not identify the risk certain areas of the home could pose to children and do not include information on how these risks can be minimised. The childminder holds a current first aid qualification and demonstrates a clear understanding of how to act in children's best interests should they become unwell while in her care.

Records, consents and procedures are in place to successfully promote children's health and welfare. Parents speak very highly of the provision commenting on the wide variety of activities children enjoy while in the childminder's care. A positive commitment to equality and diversity is demonstrated by the childminder and discussion indicates that she promotes equal opportunities through meeting children's individual needs appropriately and planned activities. The childminder understands the importance of building links with other providers delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage for the children and has started to liaise with other agencies and children's services to actively support children's care and learning needs appropriately. The childminder recognises the importance of evaluating her provision and actions raised at the last inspection have been addressed successfully. She has begun to identify areas of improvement and is working closely with the local development worker to ensure continuous improvement .

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

There were no children present at the inspection but through discussion the childminder was able to demonstrate a sound understanding of the six areas of learning of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Planning records show that children have an adequate variety of activities inside and outside the home which generally cover all areas of learning. These include trips to multicultural fairs and outings to the seaside and museums. Observations of children's learning are clearly linked to the areas of learning and their next steps are identified. A good range of toys and resources are available. Documentation shows that children enjoy a suitable range of activities each day. These include cooking activities, number games and construction. Children paint and decorate their own tin drums and share resources when playing board games. As there is no outside play area children visit play parks where they are able to run around and test out their physical skills using climbing apparatus regularly.

Suitable measures are in place to promote children's health and well-being and they understand and adopt sound hygiene practices. Each child has their own colour coded towel to minimise cross infection. Children's dietary preferences are known to the childminder and she works with parents to provide the children with nutritious meals and snacks, which include fresh fruit, vegetables and regular drinks. Children are encouraged to develop an understanding of how to stay safe. For example, they know to pick up toys when they have finished playing with them and they learn about road safety when crossing roads. They also learn about fire safety and practise emergency evacuation procedures regularly. The childminder has a detailed behaviour management policy and was able to give clear explanations on age or stage techniques to ensure children receive consistency in their understanding of 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?	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

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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