

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	138953
Inspection date	09/03/2011
Inspector	Kim Mundy
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 1993. She lives with her husband and adult child in Northwood in the borough of Hillingdon. The whole of the childminder's home is used for childminding, with the exception of the loft conversion. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder walks and drives to local schools to take and collect children and she attends local pre-school groups. The family have two cats as pets.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and of these, three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding four children in this age range and they attend various sessions. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to a variety of activities and play experiences, which help them to make sound progress in their development. The childminder has an emerging understanding of the early learning goals, and planning and observational assessment is underway. Useful information is gathered from parents to help the childminder to meet the children's individual needs whilst they are in her care. Children are cared for in a safe, secure and welcoming home, however, some of the necessary paperwork is not in place. The childminder is starting to give consideration to the effectiveness of her provision and she has the capacity to continually improve.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure written parental permission is obtained, at the time of the child's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment in the future (Safeguarding and welfare)

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

- develop further knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals
- develop planning and assessment procedures and use this information to securely identify the children's next steps for learning
- further develop the system for monitoring and maintaining continuous

improvement, for example, through self-evaluation.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a satisfactory understanding of how to safeguard children and she is aware of the procedures to be followed should she have concerns. In addition, children learn about stranger danger to further safeguard themselves. Parents' written permission to seek emergency treatment or advice is not in place for all of the children attending, which is a legal requirement. The childminder undertakes risk assessments for both her premises and outings to minimise potential risks to children.

The childminder creates a warm and welcoming environment in which children have plenty of space to play. She provides a suitable toys and equipment to support all areas of children's learning. Furthermore, there is a range of toys and resources to help children to develop an understanding of multicultural Britain. When caring for children with English as an additional language, the childminder asks parents for key words so that she can meet the children's individual needs.

Partnerships with parents and carers are suitably promoted and a daily verbal exchange of information keeps parents up to date with their child's routine and achievements. The childminder has effective links with children's schools to share relevant information for continuity and coherence in their learning. The childminder begins to evaluate her childminding service and parents' views are respected and valued. Their comments about this childminding service demonstrate that they are pleased with the service provided.

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

The childminder's home is very clean and well maintained. Good hygiene routines are encouraged, such as hand washing after using the toilet, touching animals and playing outdoors. Children are protected from unnecessary illness because they do not attend when they are sick. Suitable procedures are in place for accidents and medication administration. The childminder maintains a current first aid certificate, which means that she has the knowledge to deal with any accidents that may happen to the children.

Children enjoy nutritious meals and healthy snacks, such as spaghetti bolognaise and a selection of fresh fruits. They get excited as they make choices about what they want in their sandwiches. Children are learning to keep themselves safe as they talk about road safety on the way to and from school. They practise the fire drill on a regular basis so that they know what to do in the event of a fire. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise every day as they walk to and from school, play in the childminder's garden and go to local parks. They are developing their physical skills as they climb, slide and balance on apparatus.

The childminder has a developing knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and planning and observational assessment is in its infancy. Children develop their creativity through activities, such as sticking, cooking and painting. The childminder encourages their speaking and listening skills through conversation and telling stories. The use of pencils, crayons and paint encourages children to practise their mark-making skills. Children are solving problems as they fit puzzles together, thread beads and build with bricks. They count during the routine of the day, for instance, as they descend the stairs.

Children are learning about their environment as they feed the ducks at the park, observe animals at the farm, and help to look after the family cat. They are discovering how things work as they operate telephones, cash tills and pop up toys. Children are exploring different textures as they play with play dough, sand and water. They fill and empty containers, and have fun spinning the water wheels as they pour water through them.

Children are learning right from wrong as the childminder uses appropriate and consistent strategies for behaviour management. She offers regular praise and encouragement to children, which increases their confidence and self-esteem. Children are happy and secure in the care of this kind childminder.

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	2
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:

Not Met (with actions)

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

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (this also applies to the voluntary childcare register) 23/03/2011
- implement a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (this also applies to the voluntary childcare register) 23/03/2011

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified above. 23/03/2011
- take action as specified above. 23/03/2011