

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	402856
Inspection date	08/03/2011
Inspector	Gulnaz Hassan
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 1998. She lives with her husband, her adult son and daughter and her 12 year old foster son. They live in a first floor flat in the London Borough of Hackney, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. Access to the premises is via a flight of stairs. The two living rooms and the kitchen are used for childminding.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, no more than two of which may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding three children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is also registered to work with an assistant.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

Children's needs are not being met because the childminder does not have a sufficient understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, the childminder is not able to meet the learning and welfare needs of children. The childminder promotes some aspects of diversity and inclusive practice. The capacity for self improvement is inadequate as the childminder has not identified the major safeguarding issues and breaches of requirement prominent in her provision. The childminder has not taken sufficient steps to meet recommendations set at the last inspection or to maintain continuous improvement. As a result, the childminder is in breach of several legal requirements.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure people whose suitability has not been checked do not have unsupervised contact with children who are being cared for (Suitable people) (also applies to both parts of the childcare registers) 30/04/2011
- carry out a risk assessment for each type of outing, which takes account of the nature of the outing, and review this before embarking on each specific outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 30/04/2011

- conduct a risk assessment which identifies all aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the childcare registers) 30/04/2011
- plan and provide experiences which are appropriate to each child's stage of development as they progress towards the early learning goals (Organisation) 30/04/2011
- undertake sensitive observational assessments in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs (Organisation) 30/04/2011
- maintain a regular two-way flow of information with parents which includes the type of activities provided (Organisation) (also applies to both parts of the childcare registers) 30/04/2011
- inform Ofsted of significant events (this relates to the fostering arrangements in place) (Premises, environment & equipment) 30/04/2011

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop the organisation and storage of play materials so that children can select their resources and initiate their own play
- promote children's understanding of diversity by planning activities and experiences that encourage children to talk about, value and develop an understanding of their own and others cultures, religions, languages and backgrounds
- establish a two-way flow of information with parents and carers to ensure that a collaborative approach to children's learning and development is fully achieved.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The arrangements in place to safeguard children do not meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has committed an offence by failing to notify Ofsted of all the persons who are living at the premises. This is a specific legal requirement in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Ofsted does not intend to prosecute on this occasion. In addition, the childminder has not taken action to ensure that suitability checks are completed for all household members. Furthermore the childminder has failed to inform Ofsted of significant events, such as fostering arrangements that have an impact on her childminding registration. The childminder has not fully completed risk assessments for each outing. The risk assessments for the premises are not fully effective and do not include all areas accessible to children. As a result hazards to children such as access to stairs leading to the basement leave children at risk of accidents.

The systems in place for the childminder to reflect upon and to evaluate her

practice are not effective. The childminder is not aware of the number of breaches and areas requiring improvement that are present in her practice. Most of the recommendations set at the last inspection have been met appropriately including the recommendation relating to the suitability of adults living in the household .

The childminder has a generally satisfactory range of activities and play materials available. However, the organisation and accessibility of these do not fully promote self-choice or self initiated play. The systems in place to help children's understanding of the society in which they live in is generally sound. Resources available reflect positive images of society so that children are learning about the community that they live in. There are fewer opportunities for children to explore aspects of their own backgrounds and culture.

The childminder exchanges information, about children's care and daily routines with parents on a daily basis. Parents and carers have access to a range of policies and procedures about the provision. The systems to encourage parents to share what they know about their children, their starting points or for parents to receive suitable information about children's learning and development is not fully established. The childminder demonstrates a suitable understanding of working in partnership with other settings.

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

Children are not helped to learn and develop effectively. This is because the childminder has not developed an understanding of the requirements for learning and development. The systems in place to support planned purposeful play and exploration are limited due to the childminders lack of knowledge of the areas of learning and the early learning goals. For example, activities organised for children do not consider the abilities of individual children so that children are not suitably challenged or appropriately engaged. In addition the childminder is not able to identify the areas of learning or to support children's skills for the future effectively as a result. Observations and assessments are not used to determine children's starting points and capabilities so that children are often engaged in play with activities and toys that do not challenge them or help to extend their learning fully. Children enjoy an affectionate and warm relationship with the childminder.

Children are cared for in clean and well-kept premises where they have sufficient space to play. Emergency evacuations have been considered and practised with children to ensure that these take place speedily and that children are familiar with the processes. Children are developing their knowledge and understanding regarding the importance of good personal hygiene and they enjoy a range of healthy meals and snacks provided by the childminder. Children have sufficient opportunities to take part in physical play activities when they visit the park and local drop in groups. The childminder uses a positive and consistent approach to managing behaviour that takes into account children's understanding and maturity.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	4
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	4
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	4
The extent to which children feel safe	4
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	4

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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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for) (also applies to both parts of the childcare registers) 30/04/2011

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 in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for) (also applies to both parts of the childcare registers) 30/04/2011