

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	16/03/2011
Inspector	Samantha Smith
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 registered in 1994. She lives with her husband and adult daughter in the London Borough of Enfield. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and there is a large outdoor area for play to the side of the property.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare register. She may care for five children under eight years at any one time. There currently one child on roll from the early years age group attending on a full-time basis. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a warm and caring environment, where children are happy and well settled. She demonstrates a sound knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and most requirements are being met. She makes good use of the EYFS guidance to support children's learning and development and meets their individual care needs well. However, there is still room for improvement in her planning systems. Partnerships with parents are sound and there is a regular exchange of information between them. The childminder demonstrates a positive attitude to improving the quality of her provision and recognises that there is room for improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- carryout a full risk assessment for each outing, this must be reviewed before embarking on each specific outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 30/03/2011
- maintain an up to date paediatric first aid qualification that is approved by the local authority. (Qualification, training, knowledge and skills) 30/03/2011

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

- further develop observation and assessment systems to ensure the next steps of learning are consistently identified and linked to future planning.
- consider ways to include parents in their children's learning by seeking their views from the beginning of their child's placement and continually

- throughout their time at the setting
- consider carrying out regular emergency evacuation practices with children and record details in a fire log book, including any problems encountered. (Premises, environment & equipment)
- implement systems to monitor and evaluate current practice in order to identify works well and things that can be improved

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder generally manages her setting well. Appropriate procedures are in place to support the safety and well being of children. Including, clear procedures for reporting child protection concerns and allegations made against her or members of her household, all of whom have been appropriately vetted. Suitable steps have been taken to ensure that the environment is safe for children and this evidenced through the risk assessments, which are completed for the home and garden. Although the childminder informs that she takes children on outings, she does not complete risk assessments for these. This is a requirement of the EYFS and has resulted in an action. Appropriate procedures are in place for dealing with accidents and administering medication. A fully replenished first aid kit is kept and records of accidents and medication administered by the childminder are appropriately maintained. However, the childminder has failed to maintain an up to date first aid qualification as this has recently expired. However she demonstrates the knowledge and skills to deal with accidents as she has attended previous training.

The childminder has organised a designated playroom and outdoor area which are well resourced, providing children with a sufficient range of toys and resources to support all areas of learning. She demonstrates a sound understanding of equality issues and provides a range of resources and experiences to support children in gaining an appreciation of the wider society and different cultural backgrounds. Children currently attending come from similar backgrounds as the childminder and she demonstrates how she is able to meet their needs effectively. Positive partnerships have been established with parents and there is a regularly exchange between them. Although this is generally on care issues and does not include information on their learning and development. None of the children currently on roll attend any other provision, although the childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of the benefit of such relationships.

There are currently no self evaluation systems in place although the childminder demonstrates a positive attitude to improving the quality of her provision and outcomes for children. She has addressed all the previous recommendations made at the last inspection and demonstrates that she is aware of her strengths and has identified some areas for improvement. However, she has yet to formalize this process.

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

Children benefit from an environment that is suitably organised to support their care and learning needs. They have easy access to a range of toys and resources appropriate for the age and stage of development. Parents provide relevant information about their child at that start of their placement. This enables the childminder to plan to accommodate their individual needs immediately. The childminder has begun to record children's achievements through regular observations, which are linked to the EYFS. However, these are not used to inform future planning or support children in making progress in their learning and development.

Children's health and well-being is well promoted by the childminder. Babies benefit from the warm and trusting relationships that they have developed with her as they confidently express their feelings and needs using verbal and non verbal gestures. Their individual routines from home are followed by the childminder. Thus promoting their physical well being and ensuring continuity of care. Children enjoy regular opportunities to take part in physical activities both indoors and out. They use a range of equipment including slides, small trampolines and large wheeled toys to develop their balance and co-ordination. They are learning the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines and through the positive example set by the childminder. From a young age they are encouraged to wash their hands after assisting their personal needs and before eating meals and they follow the examples set by the childminder as she washes her hands at appropriate times throughout the day including after changing nappies and before handling food.

Activities and resources support children in developing a positive sense of themselves and an awareness of others. They learn about religious and cultural festivals through planned activities. Children's creative and imaginative development is encouraged through activities such as arts and crafts, painting, listening to music and dressing up. Babies enjoy and learn from a range of activities that allow them to explore and investigate as they satisfy their natural curiosity. Children benefit from a range of good safety measures, for example smoke detectors are in place and tested regularly, emergency evacuation procedures are in place, although these have yet to be practiced with the children currently on roll and record is kept of all visitors to the premises. Appropriate behaviour management strategies according to age and stage of development, help children understand right from wrong.

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:

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:

- ensure at least one person who is caring for children has an appropriate first aid qualification (Welfare of the children being cared for) (also applies to the voluntary part of the childcare register) 30/03/2011

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 in the compulsory part of the childcare register (welfare of the children being cared for) 30/03/2011