

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY356480
<b>Inspection date</b>	15/03/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Jane Davenport
<b>Type of setting</b>	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 adult daughter and one year old grandson in a house which is situated in the Chingford area of the London borough of Waltham Forest. The whole of the ground floor of the premises and the first floor bathroom/toilet are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. Access to the premises is via a step and a porch at the front door.

The childminder is registered to provide care for six children under eight years. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She currently has two children on roll in the early years age group. She collects children from local schools and attends local childcare groups. The childminder has three pet cats, a chinchilla and a rabbit. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder is welcoming to parents and their children and she provides a loving and caring environment to meet children's basic needs. She provides a balanced range of activities for children and, although she has not implemented a system for observing and assessing children's achievements in their learning, they are, nevertheless, making satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder has not kept herself up to date with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and her record keeping does not support her practice. As a result she fails to meet several specific legal requirements relating to documentation and has also failed to maintain her first aid training. The childminder does not undertake any form of self-evaluation and this limits her ability to identify and build upon weaknesses in order to make improvements in the service she provides.

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 that the written records of risk assessments include the date and the name of the person carrying out checks (Documentation) 15/04/2011
- request, at the time of each child's admission to the 15/04/2011

- provision, written parental permission to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and welfare)
- obtain prior written permission for each and every medicine from parents before any medication is given (Promoting good health)(Also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 15/04/2011
- complete an approved paediatric first aid course (Promoting good health)(Also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 30/04/2011

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- obtain written parental permission for children to take part in outings
- improve the current system of planning and assessments to ensure that observations are specific and linked to the six areas of learning and next steps for individual children's learning are clearly identified
- develop a system for self-evaluation in order to promote continual improvement in the service provided.

## **The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision**

The childminder demonstrates a satisfactory understanding of her role and responsibilities with regards to child protection. She is aware of the possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and knows the reporting procedures to follow should she have any concerns. Visitors are asked to identify themselves and sign the visitors' record and all adult household members have undertaken the necessary checks to ensure they are suitable to be in contact with children. Some of the required documentation, such as attendance and accident records, are in place and appropriately completed. However, much of the childminder's record keeping does not support her practice. For example, although a risk assessment of the premises has been carried out and recorded, this has not been dated or signed by the person carrying out the check. Written parental consents for seeking emergency medical treatment have not been requested and the medication record shows that medication has been given to children without the prior written consent of the parent. In addition, the childminder's first aid certificate expired in 2009. These breaches of the requirements have an adverse effect on the care provided for children.

Space in the childminder's home is used appropriately and she has an adequate range of resources covering the six areas of learning, which are deployed well so that children can make choices about what they wish to play with. Resources include some natural materials and positive images of society, for example in books, dolls and posters. The childminder has developed effective relationships with parents and carers and exchanges information with them regularly regarding their child's day. She is aware of the need to build partnerships with other providers and liaises with nursery staff in order to promote continuity of care for children who attend both settings. In discussion, the childminder states that she

feels the strengths of her provision are that she understands the individual needs of children and promotes their development well. An area she would like to develop further is to improve her knowledge of working with children who have additional needs. However, the lack of systems for self-evaluation currently hinders her ability to maintain continuous improvements in the service she offers.

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

Children are happy in the childminder's care and have access to a balanced range of learning activities and experiences. Children settle and behave well because they are encouraged to share and be kind to one another and the childminder promotes their self-esteem by giving them warm praise for their achievements. The childminder has begun to carry out and keep basic observations and records relating to children's progress. However, these are in their infancy at present and do not incorporate links to the six areas of learning or planning for children's next steps. Nevertheless, the programme of activities provided contributes to the children making satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals.

The childminder supports young children to develop their growing language and vocabulary by talking to them about what they are doing and encouraging them to repeat words and simple sentences. She also communicates by asking young children to show her what they would like to do. They enjoy looking at books with her and are beginning to learn the numbers one to ten through pictures and by counting on their fingers. Children play creatively with the modelling dough and the play food. For example, they use rolling pins to flatten out the dough and cutters to cut out the shapes of a fish, whale, bear and other animals. They enjoy the texture as they roll pieces of the dough into different sized balls. They role play with the play food, pots, pans and toaster, and solve problems for themselves as the childminder asks them to find the peas, carrots and other foodstuffs.

Young children are learning about themselves and the world around them in various ways. For example, they play games where the childminder asks them to point to different parts of their bodies, such as their eyes, ears, nose and legs and they clap and cheer themselves when she tells them 'Well done'. They use maps and pictures to discover other parts of the world and learn about what other people celebrate, for example during the recent festival of Chinese New Year. They participate in planting activities and help the childminder to feed the pet rabbit and chinchilla, thus gaining knowledge about the needs of animals and living things.

Children receive support for developing a healthy lifestyle. They have opportunities for physical play when they go on outings to the park and as they walk with the older children to school every day. They also enjoy dancing and exercise indoors. Children know that they must wash their hands after using the toilet, handling the animals and before eating. They receive healthy meals and snacks such as home made fish cakes and chicken and leek pie. The childminder focuses on ensuring that meals they have with her contribute to their five daily portions of fresh fruit

and vegetables.

## 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

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

### The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	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	4

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

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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
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	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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for) 30/04/2011
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept) 15/04/2011

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) 30/04/2011
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept) 15/04/2011