

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	138963
Inspection date	22/06/2011
Inspector	Seema Parmar

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 their three adult children in Hayes, in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The whole of the ground floor is used for minding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time, of which only three may be in the early years age range. There are three children, in the early years age range on roll. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder takes and collects children from local schools. 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 inadequate.

The childminder has warm and caring relationships with the children she looks after and is able to meet their basic needs. Lack of knowledge of the learning and development and welfare requirements, of the Early Years Foundation Stage, means that the childminder cannot drive and secure improvement for children's outcomes. Children do not, therefore, make sufficient progress towards the early learning goals. Some key weaknesses with regard to toys and equipment, record keeping and risk assessments do not promote children's safety and well-being. The childminder does not evaluate her practice and has not attended updated training, in order to help her to make continual improvement.

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:

- plan and provide experiences which are appropriate to each child's stage of development as they progress towards the early learning goals (Organisation) 29/07/2011
- undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs (Organisation) 22/07/2011
- conduct a risk assessment that identifies aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular 22/07/2011

basis and maintain a record of these particular aspects and when and by whom they have been checked.
(Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (Also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)

- request parental permission, at the time of the child's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical treatment or advice in the future (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 22/07/2011
- obtain prior written permission for each and every medicine from parents before any medication is given (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (Also applies to both parts of the Childcare register) 22/07/2011
- make sure the range of furniture, equipment and toys are safe and suitable for their purpose (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 22/07/2011

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- improve the programme for knowledge and understanding of the world through increasing activities and resources in order to develop children's awareness and understanding of diversity within society and of the world around them
- promote further children's understanding of healthy lifestyles through improving hand washing routines and having healthy drink options
- gain an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a basic knowledge of how to safeguard children in her care. Although she has a copy of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures, she is not completely familiar with the protocols to follow to fully protect children. The childminder carries out a visual risk assessment of the home. However, this is not effective, as not all potential hazards are considered. For example, loose telephone wiring, poses a risk to young children. Some of the required documentation is in place, to promote appropriate management of the childminding provision. For example, the names and contact numbers of parents and children's hours of attendance. However, the childminder has not kept a record of risk assessment for the home, both indoors and outdoors. This is a breach of requirements.

The childminder has not self-evaluated her practice to identify strengths and weaknesses. As a result, she fails to identify a number of significant issues. At the previous inspection, the childminder was required to make a number of improvements. For example, the childminder was required to and has updated a relevant first aid course, which ensures that she can respond appropriately, if a child has an accident. Furthermore, children learn to keep safe in the event of a fire, as they practice the emergency evacuation plan. Additionally, the childminder

was required to ensure an accurate record is kept of children's attendance. This specific legal requirement is now in place. However, prior consent for seeking emergency medical treatment is still not in place. This is a specific legal requirement.

The childminder demonstrates that she is able to meet children's individual basic care needs. However, she is not fully aware of how to develop children's awareness and understanding of diversity within society. In addition, although children have a few books, they generally do not have access to play resources and activities, in order to fully promote their understanding of the wider world. Furthermore, children do not have access to suitable furniture for sleeping and mealtimes. This limits their ability to gain independence with regard to their self-help skills. For example, they are fed in their buggies and do not learn how to feed themselves. Toys and resources are available to the children; although these are limited and do not fully promote their development in all six areas of learning.

The childminder has established relationships with the parents of the children in her care, as she gives verbal daily feedback to them about their children's care routines. Feedback from parent's state that they are happy with the care offered. However, she has failed to keep parents informed about procedures relating to parts of her practice.

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

The childminder has a caring manner and builds warm relationships with the children. Her home is comfortable and children are generally settled. The childminder lacks understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She does not enhance or complement children's learning, as the system for observation, assessment and planning, is not developed. Consequently, this restricts children's ability to make sufficient progress, in their learning and development.

Children are beginning to develop their problem solving skills, as they complete simple inset puzzles and fit shapes in a shape sorter. Children learn about technology and how things work, as they listen to and press buttons of programmable toys. Children learn to share and take turns, as the childminder supports the children as they play together. Children have some opportunities to develop their social skills, as the childminder networks with another childminder and takes turns visiting each other's homes.

Children are provided with snacks, such as fruit, that are nutritious. However, children are not readily given fresh drinking water; instead, they have access to high sugar drinks or squash, thereby not fully promoting their health. In addition, the childminder has failed to obtain the necessary information in advance, such as the required written consent from parents to seek emergency medical assistance, which could mean a delay in obtaining treatment. Prior consent is not sought from parents, for administering medication to children, in order to fully promote their health and well-being. These are specific legal requirements. Generally, hygiene procedures are followed. However, children miss vital opportunities to learn and develop good hand washing practices as part of the daily routine, such as before meal times, to prevent cross infections. Children enjoy some opportunities for fresh

air, when playing outdoors.

Children are learning to keep safe, as the childminder gives gentle reminders as they play. Children are generally well behaved and are beginning to listen to instructions, learning to share and taking turns. However, the weaknesses with regard to record keeping and risk assessments impacts on children's safety.

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	4
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	4
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	4
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	4

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	4
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:

Met

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:

- undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment at least once in every calendar year and immediately, where the need for an assessment arises (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) (Also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 01/07/2011
- undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment at least once in every calendar year and immediately, where the need for an assessment arises (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) (Also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register) 01/07/2011
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept) (Also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 01/07/2011
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept) (Also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register) 01/07/2011