

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	128833
Inspection date	25/07/2011
Inspector	Rebecca Khabbazi
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 adult daughter in a three bedroom house in a residential area of Forest Hill within the London Borough of Lewisham. The downstairs of the house is the main area used for childminding. A garden is available for outdoor play. The family have a cat.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for six children under eight years, three may be in the early years age group. There are currently three children under eight years old on roll, two of which are in the early years age range. The childminder also cares for two children aged eight years and over.

The childminder is a member of a local childminding network and the National Childminding Association. She has a relevant childcare qualification.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder offers a welcoming and inclusive home environment where children are safe and well cared for. Most requirements are met. Good relationships with parents ensure that the childminder knows children well and successfully promotes all aspects of their welfare and development. Children make good progress in their learning overall, given their age, abilities and starting points. The childminder reflects in the service she provides and is committed to continuous improvement. This ensures that the provision is responsive to the needs of the children who attend and their families.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure prior written permission is obtained from parents for each and every medicine administered (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)(also applies to the Childcare Register) 25/08/2011

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

- improve systems for observations and assessment by regularly following up and reviewing the next steps identified for children's learning

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Overall, children's welfare is effectively safeguarded. The childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibilities towards the children in her care. She attends relevant safeguarding training and knows what steps to take if she has concerns about a child. She makes careful risk assessments of her home to ensure children can play safely. Most of the required documentation that supports children's health, safety and wellbeing and ensures the setting runs smoothly is in place. However, although the childminder only ever gives medicine to children according to parents' wishes, their prior written consent is not always obtained for each and every medicine administered, as legally required.

The childminder makes good use of resources to create a welcoming play environment. Children have easy access a good variety of toys and play materials.

The childminder works closely with parents to make sure she has a thorough understanding of each child's background and needs. She adapts care where needed; for instance, so that older and younger children can all take part in an activity together or to promote equality and diversity. Parents are kept well informed about their child's progress through daily discussion and have access to a wide range of written information, such as policies and procedures. The childminder is aware of the need to build effective partnerships with other providers if children attend more than one early years setting.

The childminder makes good use of local training opportunities and the support available from her childminding network, to monitor and evaluate her provision. Actions taken are well targeted to lead to improved outcomes for children; for example, developing the outdoor play environment to ensure children can play safely and improving the system for practising fire drills.

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

Children are confident and settled in the childminder's home. They show a strong sense of belonging as they move independently around the home and help themselves to resources in the conservatory. They learn how to keep themselves safe; remembering to tread carefully down the little step from the dining room and taking part in regular fire drills so they know what to do in an emergency. Children adopt simple good hygiene routines. They wash their hands after using the toilet and use paper towels to dry them, helping reduce the risk of cross-infection. Children benefit from varied and healthy meals that meet their nutritional needs and choose a tasty apple for their snack. Children play outside every day as part of a healthy lifestyle. They have fun in the fresh air riding a bike or taking a turn on the slide or climbing frame.

Children have a good relationship with the childminder, who knows them well and

is warm and attentive to their needs. They take part in a wide variety of activities and experiences that support their good progress across all areas of learning. The childminder makes observations of children and matches activities to their interests and needs. However, next steps identified for children's learning are not currently consistently followed up and reviewed, in order to monitor progress. Children enjoy cuddling up for stories and help themselves to books to look at while they play. Their early language skills are fostered, as they join in conversations and learn to say new words. Children solve simple problems when they count how many dolls there are or learn to recognise the number on a door. Children find out about the world around them when they help plant and grow strawberries in the garden or remember a visit to the fire station where they helped turn on the hose. They use their imaginations while racing a motorbike and car along the floor or draw and colour a picture at the table. Children are well occupied and stimulated throughout the day. They enjoy daily outings to socialise with other children at a playgroup, the library to choose a book or play in the park. They enjoy their time with the 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?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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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 (Records to be kept) 25/08/2011

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 (Records to be kept) 25/08/2011