

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	107278
Inspection date	29/09/2011
Inspector	Pamela Bailey
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 1984.

She lives with her husband in the London borough of Southwark, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. The whole of the childminder's home is used for childminding, with the exception of the bedrooms. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

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 a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding one child in the early years age group on a part time basis. No children were present at the time of the inspection.

The childminder attends several toddler groups on a regular basis and takes children to the local parks and library.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Overall, the childminder successfully promotes most aspects of children's learning and development and welfare. Effective arrangements exist to ensure children's safety and health, and to encourage their involvement in the wider community. Partnerships with other providers and external agencies are well established and positive relationships with parents ensure each child's needs are met. The childminder has been successful in making and sustaining improvements and is confident about what she needs to do to improve further.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- display the certificate of registration (Documentation) 13/10/2011
(also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)

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

- improve further the observation and assessment arrangements to provide a clear link with the expectations of development towards of the early learning goals

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a good level of commitment to safeguarding children and promoting their welfare. Effective procedures are in place for identifying any child at risk of harm and liaising with the appropriate child protection agencies. The environment in which children are cared for is safe, supportive and conducive to learning. The childminder is vigilant about safety and has rigorous procedures in place to identify and minimise risks and help to keep children safe. All records required for the safe and efficient management of the setting are in place. However, the childminder does not display her certificate of registration. This is a breach of a specific legal requirement.

An interesting, well-equipped, welcoming environment is created. Children can see positive images of diversity, reflecting their backgrounds and the wider community. Good quality resources are attractively stored to aid children's selection. They are suitably stimulating, encouraging children to explore and investigate.

The childminder has forged strong relationships with parents. The consistent and regular sharing of information ensures that they are kept fully up to date with her childminding service. Parents receive her comprehensive written policies and procedures. Daily verbal communication keeps them informed of their children's achievements, progress and well-being. Parents are routinely involved in their children's learning, for example, through continuing activities at home. References received from parents indicate that they are very happy with the service provided. Good partnerships are fostered with other providers ensuring that effective communication takes place to support individual children's progression and continuity of learning and care. Although there are no children currently attending with special educational needs and/or disabilities the childminder engages with external agencies and childminding networks where she is able to access specialist knowledge, skills and resources.

The childminder is motivated to improve her childminding practice through ongoing training and seeking the views of parents. She recognises her strengths and accurately identifies some areas for improvement. For example, the childminder has applied thoughtful consideration to developing her garden to include a vegetable patch, grassed area, mark making board and seating to improve outcomes for the children. The childminder has been proactive in putting plans into place to achieve her aims. All recommendations from the previous inspection have been fully addressed.

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

The childminder is focussed on helping children to make good progress in their learning and development, and promotes their welfare well. Her good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage helps her to promote children's learning,

social, physical and emotional well-being. Activities are well planned based on accurate observations and assessments of children's needs and interests. However, observational assessments are not matched to expectations of development towards the early learning goals. As a result she cannot be sure how well they are progressing in each aspect of their learning and if activities are sufficiently challenging for all children.

Children are happy and settled. They can help themselves to toys and resources and choose what activities they want to join in. They are keen to explore and investigate. Children's imaginative and creative development is encouraged through activities such as, arts and craft, role play and playing musical instruments. Children are developing an interest in books and benefit from regular visits to the library. They are able to problem solve for themselves, for example, when trying to complete puzzles. They learn to count and recognise colours during practical activities and routine tasks.

Outings to the park and community groups, where there is large play equipment and wheeled toys give children plenty of opportunities to practise and develop their physical skills. They build relationships and form friendships through socialising with others. Children's understanding of safety issues are promoted through practising emergency evacuation procedures and road safety when out and about in the community. Children receive nutritious snacks that help them to understand the importance of healthy eating and get appropriate support to adopt good personal hygiene routines.

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 under the early years section of the report (Certificate of Registration) 13/10/2011

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 under the early years section of the report (Certificate of Registration) 13/10/2011