

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	124585
Inspection date	19/11/2011
Inspector	Lisa-Marie Jones
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 1984. She lives with her partner in a house in Thornton Heath, situated in the London borough of Croydon. The ground floor of the home is used for childminding and there is an enclosed rear garden.

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 range. There are currently two children on roll, all are in the early years age range. The childminder works with an assistant. The family have nine cats.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder successfully promotes all aspects of children's welfare and development. She offers a welcoming, child-centred and inclusive home environment. She works closely with parents to ensure she is familiar with children's needs. Overall, children make good progress in their learning given their age, ability and starting points. The childminder reflects on her service and demonstrates a positive attitude to continual improvement. She is responsive to the needs of the children who attend and their families.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- provide further opportunities for parents to contribute to their children's learning and development.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's welfare is effectively safeguarded. The childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibilities towards children in her care. She is familiar with the steps to take if concerned about a child. She conducts regular checks of her home to make sure children can move around freely and play safely. Documentation to promote children's health, safety and well-being is in place and supports the smooth day-to-day running of the setting.

The home is well organised and welcoming. Children play in a child-friendly environment and easily choose from a variety of good quality play materials and resources. The childminder works closely with parents to gain a thorough

understanding of each child's individual backgrounds and needs. The childminder enables children to learn about valuing each other and understanding and respecting other cultures and beliefs, through relevant activities, resources and visits to the local community.

All aspects of children's care are discussed with parents. They are kept up-to-date through daily discussions and they have access to a good range of written information such as policies and procedures, occasional newsletters and daily contact books. However, they have limited opportunities to contribute to their children's development records to ensure they are fully involved in their children's learning. Although there are no children on roll who attend other provision, the childminder is aware of the need to build effective partnerships with other providers. Self- evaluation systems are in place, demonstrating the childminder's commitment to continuous improvement.

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

Children show a strong sense of belonging, and feel safe and emotionally secure in the childminder's care. They develop confidence and independence as they help themselves to toys and play materials. They learn to keep themselves safe, for example, when they take part in a fire drill. Children adopt good hygiene routines when they wash their hands before they eat, which helps protect them from the risk of cross-infection. They benefit from regular home-cooked meals and snacks that meet their nutritional and dietary needs. They take part in regular physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle, running around and using the equipment at the park, at children's play groups or in the garden.

Children build good relationships with the childminder, who responds to them warmly and knows them well. They take part in a wide variety of stimulating activities and experiences that support their development effectively across all areas of learning. The childminder makes regular observations of the children's achievements. She identifies the next steps in their learning and regular reviews help her successfully monitor children's progress. Children enjoy sharing books in a cosy book corner in the main play room and are well occupied throughout the day and benefit from a balanced, varied routine. Children enjoy their time at the setting and are developing positive skills for the future.

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:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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