

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference numberEY356913Inspection date02/12/2011InspectorLinda Coccia

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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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.

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Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 2008. She lives with her husband and two children aged five years and 11 years. They live in a house in the area of Beckenham, in the London Borough of Bromley. The whole of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There is an enclosed garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of six children at any one time; of these, three may be in the early years age range. Currently there are two children on roll who both fall within the early years age range.

The childminder is located near to shops, local schools and transport links. The family has a pet cat.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder has outstanding procedures which help children learn about equality and diversity. She also has outstanding relationships with the parents of her child minded children who are key to providing information about their children. Overall, learning and development and self evaluation are good. The childminder has improved her provision by providing more space for children to play in and increasing the range of toys available to them. This shows she is able to maintain the continuous improvement of her setting.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- strengthen the processes that allow children's next steps to be clearly identified through the observational assessments and that these are used in leading future planning
- strengthen the use of self-evaluation to identify strengths and prioritise improvements for development that will continuously improve the quality of the provision for all children.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is organised in her setting. She has recently attended a safeguarding children course in order to update her knowledge of child protection issues. All adults in the household hold current Criminal Record Bureau enhanced

checks. The childminder has also reviewed her range of good procedures which help her to safeguard children. For example, she now involves children in her emergency evacuation drills so that they can learn to keep themselves safe. All her regulatory paperwork is well maintained, such as the risk assessment and attendance register. Through the use of good safeguarding procedures, children's well being is promoted. The childminder has driven the improvement of her service by providing more play space for children and evaluating the activities she provides for individual children. However, the childminder hasn't included the views of others in her evaluations. Toys are of good quality and are stored in easily accessible boxes. Children have benefitted from improvements because they can free flow easily throughout the premises and select their own toys.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of equality and diversity issues. She is able to provide individual care for each child depending on their parents' requirements. For example, she discusses children's religious beliefs with their parents as well as promoting other religions and cultures with children. The childminder's excellent attitude towards equality and diversity mean that children sensitively learn about each other's differences. The childminder has good procedures in place to promote partnership working with other care providers. She exchanges information with children's key persons at nursery and relays information back to their parents. The childminder knows what activities the children are participating in at nursery and is able to complement their learning. Therefore, children are well supported in some of the different areas of their lives. The childminder's relationships with parents are excellent. They exchange information verbally and through the exemplary use of the children's daily diaries. The childminder takes time to ensure parents fully understand her written policies and procedures. Parents report that the childminder is extremely professional, organised and hard working. Children receive excellent consistent care because informative discussions of their needs take place.

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

Children are very happy with the childminder. Their parents report that they often don't want to go home at the end of the day. The youngest children voluntarily throw their arms around the childminder to give her big hugs. Children show through their body language that they feel safe and secure with the childminder.

Children have access to a good range of toys and activities which they enjoy playing with and as a result make good progress in their learning. They are able to race their toy cars around the conservatory floor. They also match the different colours of the cars and count how many there are. They enjoy playing with the different musical instruments and musical push button toys which they dance and sing to. The older children like to look through the binoculars to watch the birds in the garden. The children regularly accompany the childminder to the local library where they can choose books for themselves and join in the story times. The youngest children engage in some lovely baby babble conversations with the childminder. The children appear very earnest in what they are trying to say and

the childminder always treats their words with respect. The children are developing a good repertoire of skills to help their future development. Children save examples of their creative work in their progress folders. The variety saved show that they use a wide range of different mediums to create their pictures with. Children are able to participate in a number of physical play activities at different venues during the week. The use of good quality toys and a wide variety of activities mean that children are fully engaged in their play. The childminder has a good understanding of how young children learn and develop and because of this she is able to assess children's differing abilities and provide activities to cater for their individual next steps. She is adept at planning activities but she also knows the children so well that some activities can be carried out spontaneously. Each child's progress record contains photographs of the child enjoying the activities. However, the observations don't always show details of the variety of areas of learning that the activities are providing. Overall, the records clearly show that children are making good progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

The children are provided with a good range of healthy, nutritious food at snack and meal times. Children are encouraged to sit at the table or in the high chairs to eat. The younger children particularly enjoy tucking into chopped fruit at snack time. The childminder discusses all dietary requirements with the children's parents. She provides them with sample menus. Children learn about personal hygiene and can easily follow the childminder's hand washing routines. Children enjoy their visits to the park to use the large play equipment and the younger children particularly enjoy the soft play equipment available at the local children centre. Children are beginning to adopt a healthy lifestyle because the childminder promotes healthy eating and active play. The children have lots of choices. They can choose what toys to play with and what snacks they want to eat and when. They can also choose when to visit other venues. They children know the childminder's simple house rules well. They also learn about home safety and road safety as they practice crossing roads safely. All children receive regular praise and encouragement from the childminder and as a result have an enjoyable experience 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	2
improvement	

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the	2
Early Years Foundation Stage	
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	1
diversity	
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the	2
steps taken to promote improvement	
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and	1
carers	

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage 2

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation	2
Stage	
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

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

Met