

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	143982
Inspection date	16/05/2012
Inspector	Janet Williams
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 one adult member of her family. They live in Clapham in the London Borough of Lambeth. There are shops, parks, schools and local public transport services are within walking distance. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is an enclosed garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of four children under the age of eight years at any one time, of these three may be in the early years age range. She is currently caring for one child in the early years age range.

The childminder is available to take and collect children from nursery and school. She holds relevant childcare qualifications and has a degree in Early Years.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

The excellent learning environment enables children to thrive in all areas of learning, both indoors and out. Each child is recognised and valued as a unique individual. Exemplary partnerships between the childminder, parents and other agencies extensively contribute to children's progress in their learning and development. Overall, the childminder's comprehensive self-evaluation reflects rigorous monitoring and searching analysis of her practice. She demonstrates an outstanding capacity for continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- reviewing and continually developing the systems for self-evaluation in order to maintain exemplary practice.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder's excellent knowledge of safeguarding protects children from harm. She is very clear about what to do if she has concerns about a child in her care, which supports children's wellbeing exceptionally well. She makes excellent and accurate daily risk assessments both indoors and outdoors. These enable her to identify and quickly address potential hazards to minimise accidents.

The childminder is ambitious and continuously strives to improve her practice. She has highly effective monitoring systems in place. The continual review of self-evaluation in order to maintain the exemplary practice of the nursery is an area for ongoing development. The childminder takes full advantage of various training opportunities to keep her up-to-date in all areas relating to the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The childminder provides an extensive range of stimulating resources and play materials. These are of very good quality and very well organised to support children in making independent choices about their play. Children learn highly successfully about other cultures through taking part in extensive activities and using resources, such as books and photographs. For example, they learn about different religious festivals. The childminder has an exceptional understanding of children's individual needs and backgrounds. This enables her to take highly effective steps to narrow any gaps in their achievement and to include them fully in all aspects of her provision.

The exceptional partnership with parents continuously supports children's care and learning. The childminder frequently seeks the views of parents, evaluates their comments and wishes and makes changes to her practice as a result. The childminder and parents actively work together and share information about all aspects of children's care and learning. For example, the childminder shares photographs of the children taking part in activities. The childminder has established excellent working partnerships with other providers, which successfully promotes a fully shared approach to children's learning, development and welfare.

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

Children enjoy an excellent balance of extremely well organised activities, which effectively address and meet their individual learning needs. The extensive range of toys and equipment provide excellent opportunities for children to participate in interesting, challenging and imaginative play. Babies receive lots of warmth and affection and the childminder is very responsive to their needs. This supports their emotional well-being and gives them very high levels of confidence. Children are very happy, content and feel safe. Photographs show how much they enjoy activities in the versatile and stimulating environment. The very well organised outdoor play area allows children to explore and plant seeds. This extensively promotes their knowledge and understanding of the world. In addition, they benefit from using large outdoor equipment, such as slides, sit-and-ride toys and bikes. This promotes their physical development extremely well.

All children, including babies, are fully included in all activities. For example, they are all encouraged to use their senses through finger painting and to explore a range of colours. The extensive range of dressing up clothes reflects countries from around the world. This purposefully extends children's knowledge of the wider world. Children develop excellent skill for the future. The excellent role-play

area enables children to use their imaginations fully as they dress up, pretend to be various adult characters and to cook using various crockery and cutlery. The childminder consistently talks to the children which enables them to learn new words and extensively extend their vocabulary. They thoroughly enjoy using the excellent range of books. The childminder reads to children from a very young age to encourage their love of literature. The childminder uses numerous books and displays showing numbers, shapes and sizes to help children develop an awareness of mathematical ideas.

The childminder has an exceptional knowledge of each child. She makes detailed and extensive observations of their progress in all areas of learning. She uses this information highly effectively to identify their next steps and plan for their individual learning needs. As a result, each child makes exceptional progress.

Excellent, nutritious meals and snacks help children develop healthy eating habits from a young age. Older children learn about healthy food through planting vegetables such as watercress. The childminder's menu plan provides balanced nutritious meals, incorporating fresh fruit and vegetables. Children learn to take responsibility for their own personal care needs and follow excellent hygiene routines. They have excellent opportunities to learn how to keep themselves safe. They frequently practise fire drills, enabling them to know what to do in event of an emergency. All children have membership of the Children's Traffic Club. This helps them to learn about road safety in an attractive and fun way.

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?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	1

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	1
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	1
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	1

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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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