

<b>Inspection date</b>	09/09/2013
Previous inspection date	10/03/2010

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## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

### **This provision is inadequate**

- The childminder has poor understanding of the Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage and is in breach of several requirements. This has a serious impact on children's safety, well-being and development.
- The childminder fails to meet ratio requirements; therefore children are poorly supervised. The premises are not secure, which compromises their safety and well-being.
- The childminder has failed to notify Ofsted of significant events that affect her childminding. She has left children in sole charge of her assistant for several weeks at a time, which undermines their safety. She has also failed to seek parental permission to leave children in the sole care of her assistant, for any period of time, as required.
- The childminder has a poor understanding of child protection issues and is unable to demonstrate how she would protect children in the case of a concern. This undermines children's safety in her care. She has also failed to notify Ofsted of a person working on her premises when children are present. As a result, this person has not been vetted by Ofsted to promote children's safety.
- The childminder does not manage children's behaviour effectively. This hinders their engagement in activities and therefore contributes to reduced learning.
- The childminder does not offer children interesting activities in enough depth or breadth to provide them with adequate challenges. In addition, she does not observe and monitor children's development sufficiently and is unaware of how to complete the progress check at age two. This hinders children's progress.

- The childminder has failed to evaluate and monitor her practice. As a result, she has not identified, or tackled serious weaknesses in her provision. Children's development and well-being are compromised as a result.
- The childminder fails to maintain some required documentation, including records of children attending her provision, parental permissions for administering medication and an accurate record of each child's attendance.

### **It has the following strengths**

- The childminder provides freshly cooked vegetarian food to meet children's individual dietary needs.

### **Information about this inspection**

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

### **Inspection activities**

- This was an unannounced inspection.
- The inspector had a discussion with the childminder and spoke with the assistant when appropriate during the visit.
- The inspector observed children with the childminder and her assistant, primarily in the living room area of her home.
- The views of parents were obtained through available documentation.

- The inspector sampled a range of available documentation, such as the attendance register, children's individual files and the safeguarding policy.

**Inspector**

Helen Steven

**Full Report****Information about the setting**

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives with her husband and one school-aged child, in Harrow Weald in the London Borough of Harrow. The whole of the ground floor of the house is used for childminding. There is a garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder works alongside an assistant and has additional support from part-time cooks and cleaners. There are currently eight children on roll in the early years age range.

The childminder's assistant walks or drives to local schools to take and collect children.

**What the setting needs to do to improve further****The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take the following enforcement action:**

We will issue Welfare Requirements Notice to ensure that the provider will:

ensure the premises are secure; this refers to the front door so that children cannot leave the premises unsupervised

implement a policy and procedures to safeguard children, in line with the guidance and procedures of the relevant Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB); the safeguarding policy and procedures must include an explanation of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff, and cover the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting

obtain permission from parents and/or carers to leave their children with an assistant, including for a very short period of time

ensure that children are not left in the sole care of an assistant for more than two hours in any single day.

We found the childminder had failed to notify Ofsted of a significant event and a change to persons working on the premises, which is a requirement of their registration. On this occasion Ofsted issued the provider with a warning letter.

**To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:**

- ensure a maximum of six children under the age of eight are cared for at any one time; of these six children, a maximum of three may be young children (a child is a young child up until 1st September following his or her fifth birthday), and only one child under the age of one
- obtain prior written permission from parents and/or carers, for each particular medicine, before administering any medicine to their child
- maintain an accurate record of children's hours of attendance and the name of their key person
- ensure that required records are in place for each and every child, which include for example, their date of birth
- consider the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child, and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all of the areas of learning and development
- observe children to understand their level of achievement, interests and learning styles, and shape learning experiences for each child reflecting those observations
- improve the tracking of children's individual progress, gaining knowledge of the progress check at two years in order to identify the child's strengths and any areas where the progress is less than expected
- implement a behaviour management policy, and procedures to ensure effective strategies are used to manage children's behaviour.

**Inspection judgements**

**How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend**

The childminder has a poor understanding of the learning and development requirements

for the Early Years Foundation Stage and fails to meet several requirements. She does not provide appropriate activities to engage children's interests, and promote their development in all areas of learning. Both her planning and organisation of learning opportunities are weak and children do not make good enough progress in her care. For example, at some points there are no resources accessible to children. This means children have nothing to occupy them, or promote their development. When the childminder does provide resources, they are not appropriate for the ages of all children present and are not set out attractively or organised effectively in order to extend children's learning.

The childminder is unable to demonstrate how she observes children or how she uses these observations to promote their progress. Until very recently there has been no system in place to establish children's starting points in learning. As a result, for the majority of children, the tracking of their progress is not effective. Consequently, the childminder does not ensure all children are offered adequate challenge relating to the level of development to support them in making good progress in their learning. The childminder is unable to demonstrate her understanding of her responsibility to carry out a progress check for children aged between two and three years. This is a requirement.

The childminder does not have appropriate regard to the ratio requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, she is caring for more children than these requirements allow and is unable to give children enough attention to meet their learning needs. For example, as the childminder does not provide enough age-appropriate resources for all children in the group, younger children do not have enough to do. They interrupt the play of older children, as they try to take toys. Although the childminder reminds children to 'share', children are unable to do so because there are not enough toys. This means that children's personal, social and emotional development is undermined. The childminder is unable to give enough attention to any children present, in order to extend their learning. This is because she is distracted by meeting the needs of the younger children who are not purposefully engaged in play. Children have stories read to them as a group by an adult. Although the stories engage some of the children, others are disinterested and sit with their back to the book or wander aimlessly. As the childminder does not provide children with enough interesting things to engage them, children are not developing skills to support them as they move to school, for example, the ability to sit and concentrate. This also means that opportunities to encourage children to develop their communication and language skills, and also their understanding of literacy, are not used effectively.

The childminder encourages children to identify colours and count at some points. However, the assistant suggests that children help set up the lunch table but does not extend this activity to support children's simple counting skills. Children sing a prayer before eating lunch in the childminder's home language and another in English. This shows that the childminder does have regard for children's backgrounds. The children are able to take part in some planting activities in the garden to further their understanding of the world. However, at the moment, use of the garden is limited, as building materials stored there. The childminder states that she does not take children on outings at the moment because she is caring for too large a number to do so safely. This means that children have limited opportunities for physical development.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children**

The childminder has failed to meet the ratio requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, she and her assistant are caring for eight children in the early years age range, as well as taking older children to school. There are insufficient resources and insufficient people to meet these children's needs. This undermines children's ability to feel safe, to be safe, and to develop their personal, social and emotional awareness in her home.

The atmosphere in the childminder's home is often chaotic which undermines children's behaviour and engagement. The childminder and her assistant do not give children age-appropriate explanations about their unwanted behaviour to help them manage this themselves. The childminder claps and calls out rules by numbers which she asks the children to recite back to her. For example, rule three is 'sharing, sharing'. However, she offers no explanation as to why this is important. As the childminder involves all children each time there is an incident, there is a lot of disruption to children's play. There is an expectation that older children give up their toys when younger children indicate they want them. This does not support children to learn about fairness and compromise. This also interrupts children's flow of play, as older children are not able to explore and investigate resources fully. Toddlers are told about rule one: 'be kind' and the childminder asks them to say sorry and repeats her phrase, 'Nice, nice', but again does not explain to children why such behaviour is important. Nonetheless, the childminder shows affection towards children, offering cuddles which help them feel secure when they are upset.

The childminder sometimes places toddlers in their highchairs to play. However, this prevents them from initiating or investigating activities and restricts their movement. The childminder does not always give them appropriate toys. For example, she offers them an electronic toy with cards designed for older children. Toddlers protest by throwing the cards, crying and pulling at the highchair straps until they are taken out of the chair. This demonstrates that the lack of age-appropriate resources directly undermines toddlers' emotional security and has a negative impact on their behaviour. The childminder and assistant offer praise when children are completing tasks. Children are learning to take some responsibility as they tidy away toys when they have finished playing with them.

Children are cared for on the ground floor of the setting, with nappy changing taking place on the upstairs landing. The childminder is in the process of developing the 'lean to' at the back of the house to store resources. However, the childminder has not notified Ofsted of the changes to the premises as required which has had an impact on the service she offers to children. For example, she attributes the renovations to there not being resources available to the children. The toys are currently stored in the shed at the bottom of the garden and the childminder has failed to tackle the impact of this. For example, she has not reorganised her toy storage during the renovations to make sure that children have enough to play with.

Children are reminded about keeping themselves safe, as the childminder tells them they must not climb on the sofa. However, the weaknesses in safeguarding children's welfare mean their well-being cannot be assured. The childminder is not implementing a suitable procedure for administering medication to children in order to promote their health. Adults caring for children administer their own paracetamol based non-prescription medication to the children, without the required written parental permission. This means that children are at possible risk of overdose and this poses a risk to their well-being.

The childminder reminds children to wash their hands after toileting, which helps them develop some appropriate hygiene practices. The childminder offers children a freshly cooked nutritious lunch, such as 'Mexican rice'. She caters for children's individual dietary needs. At lunch, the childminder and assistant talk to the children about healthy foods to promote their understanding of how to make healthy choices. However, the childminder does not organise snack time to encourage children's independence. The children all sit on the tiled kitchen floor in front of the childminder and she hands out their foods, rather than enabling them to serve themselves. A jug of water is available and children can ask for this when they are thirsty to meet their hydration needs. The childminder has introduced yoga for the children so that they stretch and move their bodies to support some aspects of their physical development.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision**

The childminder has insufficient understanding of her role and responsibilities. As a result, she is not meeting several of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. In addition, she is not meeting the associated requirements of the Childcare Register. These weaknesses have a negative impact on children's safety in her care.

This inspection was brought forward as a result of a number of concerns raised to Ofsted relating to the suitability of adults caring for children, ratio requirements and notifying Ofsted. Evidence gathered at inspection found that the childminder does not demonstrate a secure understanding of issues surrounding safeguarding children. She is unable to describe signs and symptoms that would cause her to be concerned sufficiently, and she is unsure of the procedure to follow if she has concerns, in order to protect children in her care. There is a policy to take details if a child arrives with an injury, and to photograph any injuries. However, this policy does not consider the implications if this injury is beneath their clothing. This demonstrates that some procedures are ineffective and poorly thought out. As a result, they do not support children's safety. The childminder works with an assistant. She has not obtained written permission from parents and/or carers to enable their children to be cared for up to two hours in any one day by the assistant, as required. During the summer, the childminder left the assistant to care for the minded children while she was out of the country for over a month. This means that she has left

children at risk, as they have been cared for by someone who should be under the childminder's direct supervision. These are breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Ofsted will issue welfare requirements notices and the childminder must take action to make the required improvements.

The inspection also found that the childminder has failed to notify Ofsted of significant events, such as a change to her health, changes to the premises and of one person working in the home when children are present. Furthermore, at the time of the inspection the childminder was minding for more children than the ratio requirements allow. This is because the childminder has insufficient understanding of the requirements and reports that she believes that she is able to care for as many children as she thinks she can manage. The large number of children present in the early years age range has a negative impact on children's care. These are breaches of legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Furthermore, the security of the premises is not sufficient to prevent children from leaving the home unsupervised. The handle is at a low level and the door is unlocked and children are able to access the door. As a result, their safety is not assured. The childminder does not manage her provision effectively to promote children's safety and well-being. For example, she has delegated her responsibility to keep required records, to her assistant. The assistant was away from the children for longer than necessary in order to provide evidence of documentation which means that children were not well supervised during this time. There is no evidence of a daily record of the names of the children being cared for, and their hours of attendance prior to September 2013 as required. Furthermore, the register for the month of inspection does not include all the children attending at the time of inspection. Individual records are not in place for all children on roll as required. For example, although a child's name and home address is noted on the assistant's phone, there is no information regarding the child's date of birth. This means that the childminder is unable to promote children's safety in the case of an emergency evacuation, or provide accurate details of children she cares for, for example, in the case of a child protection concern.

The childminder and her assistant both hold valid first aid and food hygiene certificates. However, they do not obtain written parental permission for administering medicines to children, as required. The childminder is developing her partnership with parents by seeking their views on her service through questionnaires. Since receiving their feedback, the childminder is now sending parents a monthly newsletter informing them of activities the children have been involved in. However, the childminder has failed to use self-evaluation to ensure that requirements are being met at all times. In addition, she has not monitored her practice sufficiently to identify serious weaknesses in practice. The childminder is aware of how to access information from other agencies if required. There have been visits from a local authority development worker and as a result, the childminder has made a change to an aspect of her documentation. She has recently introduced an 'All about me' form for new children, which includes information, such as children's dietary information.



## The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met  
(with  
actions)**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met  
(with  
actions)**

### To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person aged 16 or over working or living on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- implement suitable safeguarding procedures for the protection of children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- make arrangements with other childcare providers or with parents for occasions on which the registered person is not able to provide childcare (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of the name, home address and date of birth of each child and retain them for a period of two years (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children and their hours of attendance and retain them for a period of two years (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of any medicine administered to any child, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, together with a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of any significant event which is likely to affect suitability to care for children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person aged 16 or over working or living on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised except where the child is aged eight or over and the parent of the child has agreed that they may leave the provision unaccompanied (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- implement suitable safeguarding procedures for the protection of children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- make arrangements with other childcare providers or with parents for occasions on

which the registered person is not able to provide childcare (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

- ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of the name, home address and date of birth of each child and retain them for a period of two years (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children and their hours of attendance and retain them for a period of two years (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of any medicine administered to any child, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, together with a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of any significant event which is likely to affect suitability to care for children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

## What inspection judgements mean

### Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Satisfactory	Satisfactory provision is performing less well than expectations in one or more of the key areas. It requires improvement in order to be good.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be inspected again within 12 months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

## Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY395274
<b>Local authority</b>	Harrow
<b>Inspection number</b>	932100
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	12
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	9
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	10/03/2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	

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## Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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