

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	147828
Inspection date	16/02/2009
Inspector	Julie Biddle
Type of setting	Childminder

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 report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

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.

Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 1994. She lives with her husband, Mother, one adult and one school aged child in the London Borough of Harrow. Children have use of a play room and toilet on ground floor of the home. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The childminder supports children who speak English as an additional language. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children. There are currently two children in the early years age group on roll. She also offers care to children over five years of age. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children benefit from the warm and friendly care the childminder provides, enabling them to feel secure to explore and learn. They participate in a variety of fun activities both within and outside of the home, which ensures they make good progress in all areas of their development. Children are included and valued as individuals as the childminder promotes inclusive practice. The childminder is beginning to self evaluate her service to maintain continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- practise the devised emergency evacuation of the premises with all children

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises the environment to allow children to explore freely, thereby assisting them to become independent learners. She spends quality time supporting children in their play and learning giving them confidence and security, which promotes their well being.

The childminder accurately identified areas of strengths in her practice and areas she would like to develop. For example, she would like to develop her work with the older child. She has addressed previous recommendations from her last inspection, improving outcomes for children.

The childminder establishes effective partnerships with parents to ensure the care of each child is appropriate and their individual needs are identified and supported. The childminder has good systems in place to share information with parents. For example, she talks to the parents at the beginning and end of the day and shares any information with them about their child. Parents are made to feel very welcome and they comment that they are happy with the care their child receives. However the childminder does not have a complaints procedure in place, meaning

parents are not aware of the process should they wish to make a complaint.

Children learn how to keep safe as the childminder talks to them about staying safe when in the park and safety in the home environment. For example, she reminds the children how to stop look and listen when crossing the road and how not to run in the home. In addition she has a fire evacuation procedure in place. However this has not been practised by all of the children to enable them to become familiar with it, to assist with their quick and safe evacuation from the home, should the need arise. Although the childminder completes visual checks of the home and when out, she does not conduct formal risk assessments or maintain records of these.

The home and play room are secure and the childminder ensures that all adults in the household are suitable to be around children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are cared for in a warm and loving environment, they are happy and secure as they investigate their surroundings. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure she is fully aware of the children's individual needs. Children are enabled to take part in a balance of adult led and free play activities that are provided for them with enthusiasm and curiosity. They are provided with resources that are easily accessible as they are stored on the floor and in boxes at low level. This promotes the children's independence skills as they can make choices and initiate their own play.

Children's enjoyment and learning is enhanced by the childminder's involvement in their play. The children bring toys to the childminder who sits on the floor and enthusiastically talks to the children about them. For example they complete simple jigsaw together, they chat about the shapes and the animals on each piece. Children's language development is progressing as the childminder takes a great interest in developing children's love of books. The childminder has a range of books and resources in both her home language and that of the children. The childminder has worked hard to support children in their home language as well as developing their understanding of English. The children also enjoy music, singing and dancing which all encourage early communication and socialisation. The children sing along to familiar songs such as twinkle twinkle little star and the wheels on the bus. Children are beginning to develop an awareness of themselves and other people as they learn about cultures and traditions of the wider world. For example the childminder and children read traditional stories and rhymes from their own and other cultures.

Physical exercise is fostered as the children have the opportunities of playing in the local park and enjoying the large apparatus such as swings and slides. The childminder promotes positive behaviour and ensures children are being encouraged to help develop their confidence. For example, she encourages children to remember house rules with gentle reminders. In addition she supports children as they learn to share and be kind to each other. Children receive lots of praise for their efforts and achievements which encourages their self esteem.

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

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

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:

Met

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:

- ensure risk assessments include anything in which a child may come into contact with, including outings and a record maintained (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 02/03/2009
- ensure a written procedure is in place to be followed in relation to complaints and includes information on how parents can contact the regulator (Procedures for dealing with complaints) 02/03/2009

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.