

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY254321
Inspection date	15/12/2011
Inspector	Rebecca Hurst
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 was registered in May 2003. She lives with her husband and two children aged 10 and 11 years old. The family live in a three bedroom house in a residential area of Beckenham, close to local shops, schools, parks and transport links.

The whole of the house is used for childminding purposes. There is direct access to a secure garden for outdoor play. The family have one dog, three cats, one hamster and a rabbit.

The childminder may care for no more than six children under eight years; of these, not more than three may be in the early years age group, and of these, not more than one may be under one year at any one time. There is currently three child on roll in the early years age range. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are happy and settled because the childminder creates a stimulating, safe and secure environment. Children are valued and supported to make the most of their abilities, making good progress. The childminder has started to evaluate her provision. She seeks to improve the learning opportunities provided, working towards the best possible outcomes for children. Documentation is generally maintained. The childminder provides an inclusive provision; however, not all festivals and celebrations are carried out. As a result, the childminder has a good capacity 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:

- plan a wider range of activities to develop children's knowledge and understanding of diversity
- record in a fire log book, the details of any problems encountered and how they were resolved.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding of how to safeguard the children in her care, through her good knowledge of child protection. Risk assessments are carried out for both the home and for outings, which enables the children to be kept safe.

Fire drills are carried out with all of the children; however, at the time of the inspection they were not recorded. Consequently, there are missed opportunities to fully enhance the children's knowledge and understanding of what to do in the event of an emergency. There is good use of stair gates to stop the children accessing areas which are unsafe without an adult present. The childminder further enhances the safety of the children as there are good risk assessments and safety measures in place with regards to the pets.

Children have good access to resources that are stored at a level they can reach for themselves, this enhances their independence. Children have some opportunities to learn about the wider world around them. They look at the Christian festivals but do not celebrate those from different traditions. They have access to a good number of resources that reflect diversity. The childminder continues to develop her knowledge of childcare and how to improve the children's learning and development, through regular training opportunities. Recent training opportunities include the childminder completing her Cache level 3.

The childminder works well with the parents to ensure there is continuity of care for the children. Two-way communication is actively encouraged by using daily diaries as well as daily feedback. The childminder and parents record messages for one another and the diaries also include information about children's activities. The childminder makes sure that parents are kept informed about their children's ongoing developmental progress. Currently, children do not attend other settings, but the childminder is fully aware of her role in working in partnership with others to ensure that the experiences she offers enhance those they receive elsewhere.

The childminder is able to highlight her key strengths and the areas she wishes to work upon through her self evaluation process. The parents share their thoughts and views through the daily contact books. She then takes appropriate action to address these and as a results makes positive and continuous improvement to the outcomes for children. The provision is response to its users.

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

Children have a good sense of belonging and they are very settled and happy in the childminder's care. Children's self-esteem and confidence levels are nurtured and boosted by the strong relationships they have built with the childminder. They like to snuggle up with the childminder and gain reassurance from her. The childminder is skilled in asking the children open-ended questions to make them think about what they are doing, this helps them to progress well in their learning. Children are making good progress with their speech and they show that they are becoming inquisitive learners, showing curiosity in all that is going on in the setting.

Children are cared for in a hygienically clean home where they are protected from cross infection and contamination through well thought out hygiene procedures. Daily opportunities are offered to the children for them to enhance their physical

development. Freshly prepared and nutritious meals ensure the children are thriving in the care of the childminder. Good hygiene procedures are in place during nappy changing which further enhances children's welfare.

The childminder is skilled in teaching the children the importance of sharing and being kind to one another. The childminder takes time to talk to the children and explain at a level they can understand. Given the children's ages and stages of development they are well behaved. Good supervision whilst the children move around the home and fire procedures enhances the children's safety and enables them to feel safe whilst playing.

The childminder observes the children well. A good use of photos with well written observations allows the childminder to see the good progress the children are making towards the early learning goals. These observations are shared with the parents in the daily contact books so all information is shared with them. Resources are well used to support and extend children's learning. The childminder is skilled in making sure the activities promote children's development in all six areas of learning and offer sufficient challenge to them and help them to gain skills for the future.

Children enjoy playing with cars and a garage. The childminder sits with the children and they talk about the different sizes of cars and they count down for the cars to start a race. The children are skilled in counting and show great delight when the cars whizz down the slopes. Children snuggle in to read stories with the childminder. They are skilled in pressing the buttons at the right time to make the noises that correspond with the pictures in the book. The children are able to develop good skills for the future through the good use of pre programmable toys.

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	3
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	3
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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