

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY272818
Inspection date	10/02/2009
Inspector	Elizabeth Anne Coffey
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 2004. She lives with her adult daughter, her 13-year-old daughter and her four-year-old granddaughter. They live in a three bedroom maisonette in East Dulwich, in the London borough of Southwark. The ground floor of the house is used mainly for childminding and there are toilet facilities located on this floor. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register to care for a maximum of three children under eight years and is currently caring for two children in the early years age group. The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are no pets in the home.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the provision is satisfactory. Children are settled in the care of the childminder and making some progress in their learning and development. Children's welfare is promoted because the childminder ensures that the premises are generally safe. Most required policies and procedures are maintained. Practice is sufficiently inclusive, and the childminder ensures that children have access to a range of resources that reflect diversity. The childminder demonstrates a positive attitude to improving her service and outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop systems for carrying out sensitive observations on children that can be used to plan for their next steps in learning, and shared with parents
- develop systems for reviewing, monitoring and evaluating own practice to help support ongoing improvement
- ensure that individual bedding is provided for each child.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- devise and implement a system to ensure that regular risk assessments are carried out to help promote the safety and welfare of children (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 25/02/2009
- ensure that the daily record of children's hours of attendance is accurately maintained (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register). 25/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises the resources and environment well to provide a welcoming, child friendly atmosphere where children's individual needs are acknowledged and respected. She plans and provides an interesting programme of activities and outings. However, there are currently insufficient systems in place to assess individual children's stage of development or plan for their next steps in learning.

The childminder is aware of local safeguarding procedures and of her responsibilities in promoting and protecting children's welfare. Most records, policies and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the childminding service are in place. The childminder has not met a number of requirements. For example, a full risk assessment has not been carried out resulting in some hazards not being addressed, in addition, the register of children's attendance has not been accurately maintained in some instances.

The childminder is keen to undertake further training to enhance and underpin the service she provides. However, systems for monitoring and evaluating her service to identify weaknesses and ensure sustained improvement are limited.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder organises the environment so that children can easily access toys and resources, promoting their independence and choice during play. Children are beginning to make progress in their learning and development because the childminder provides a programme of activities, which take into account their interests, likes and dislikes. However, there are insufficient systems in place for carrying out regular observations or assessments on all children. Furthermore, planning does not identify next steps in children's learning. This means that children's learning needs are not always fully extended.

Children take part in daily indoor and outdoor activities. They enjoy frequent visits to local community settings and toddler groups where they are able to mix with other children and develop their social skills. Regular use of indoor soft play centres and playgrounds ensures that children can exercise and keep fit throughout the year. Children are encouraged to have good personal hygiene routines, such as regular hand washing. However, the practice of using a shared duvet for children to sleep on top of, does not promote their good health.

Furniture is arranged in a manner that maximises the space available and supports young children in their early toddling and walking attempts. For example, a toddler beams proudly as he confidently makes his way around the room using the low seats and furniture as support where necessary. The childminder demonstrates a knowledge of and commitment to, inclusion and ensures that resources and activities, which help children learn to value and appreciate the diversity of their community and the wider world, are readily available. The childminder helps children develop a positive sense of self by ensuring that she takes the time to

listen to them and provide them with individual attention. As a result behaviour is good and children's confidence and self-esteem develops.

The childminder has a sound relationship with parents and shares information with them on a daily basis about how their child's day has been. Good communication between the childminder and parents about children's routines ensures that children's personal care needs are met. However, as there is currently no systematic method used by the childminder for planning for individual children's learning, this results in parents not being given information on children's learning goals.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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:

Not Met (with actions)

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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report 25/02/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report 25/02/2009

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.