

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY283027
Inspection date	07/07/2009
Inspector	Helen Deegan
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 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 family in Raynes Park in the London Borough of Merton. Minded children have access to the whole of the ground floor and two bedrooms on the first floor. There is an enclosed back garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding three children in the early years age range. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder collects children from the local school and attends local toddler groups on a regular basis.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. An inclusive and welcoming service is provided by the childminder who works closely with parents to settle children into her provision. She provides a good range of resources, many of which provide positive reflection of the diversity within society. She observes children's achievements and knows the children well but doesn't always plan for the next steps in their learning and development. She attends ongoing training and evaluates her practice to identify areas for improvement. Children are relaxed and play confidently in the setting.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- request information from parents about children's development so that an understanding of their starting points is obtained which enables appropriate activities to be offered
- ensure that the information gained from observations is used to identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences for each child

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder offers a good range of activities which help children progress in all areas of their learning and development. She plans activities on a long, medium and short term basis so that variety is consistently offered. She records observations of the children's achievements but doesn't always use the information effectively to plan next steps in the children's learning. She provides daily verbal feedback for parents. The childminder completes self evaluation documentation and uses it to identify areas for improvement within her practice. She attends

ongoing training workshops to update and improve her knowledge.

A comprehensive range of policies and well maintained records ensure that children's needs are effectively met. The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities with regard to child protection and maintains a current first aid certificate so that children's welfare is suitably protected.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the care of the childminder. An accessible environment is created which allows children to make choices and select activities independently. A wide range of resources which reflect different race, culture, language, religion and ability are provided so that children gain positive messages about the diversity within society. Children use their imagination as they paint, use play dough and play with sand and water. They gain an awareness of numbers and simple calculation as they sing number rhymes and count the stairs and they enjoy looking at books with the childminder. Children learn about their environment as they visit local parks and farms and grow plants. They have regular opportunities to play physically in the childminder's garden on bikes and scooters and via regular visits to local parks and toddler groups. The childminder records observations, keeps photographic records and knows the children well.

The childminder provides good support for children. She sits on the floor beside them to join in with their play and asks simple questions to promote their developing language skills. Children enjoy role play using the doctors kit, they smile and giggle as the childminder asks for medicine and thanks them for making her better. The childminder offers healthy meals, snacks and drinks and provides a clean and hygienic environment so that children's health is promoted. She works closely with parents on settling children in at their own pace so that they feel secure and confident in her care. She obtains detailed information from parents which enables her to fully meet children's care needs, but does not request information about children's development to inform her about their starting points. Children behave well because the childminder is calm, consistent and sensitive towards them. In addition she is positive with the children, praising their efforts and achievements regularly so that their self esteem is appropriately fostered.

Parents are asked to keep ill and infectious children away from the setting so that children are protected from the spread of infection. The childminder risk assesses her premises and outings to ensure that safety is maintained. A thorough set of well maintained documentation helps to guide her daily practice and ensures that children's needs are met.

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

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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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