

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY290203
Inspection date	05/03/2009
Inspector	Samantha Smith
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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 first registered in 2004. She lives with her husband who is her assistant and four children aged seven, 10, 13 and 15 in Edmonton, the London borough of Enfield. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for five children under eight and there are currently three children on roll including one in the early years age range attending part-time three days a week and two attending before and after school Monday to Friday. Care is provided all year round. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The overall effectiveness of the setting is inadequate. Children's learning and development is not fully promoted because the childminder does not demonstrate a sound understanding of her role or how to support their learning. Although she is aware of the welfare requirements these have not been fully met because some of the required written policies are not in place, which means that parents are not fully informed. Inclusive practice is reflective in part, though this is an area that needs to be developed further.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register) 06/04/2009
- provide parents with an effective safeguarding policy and procedure that complies with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register) 06/04/2009
- identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, maintain a record of these particular aspects as well as when and by whom they were checked, following a risk assessment of the premises (Suitable premises, environment and 06/04/2009

- equipment) (also applies to the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register)
- use observations and assessments to identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences for each child (Assessment and arrangements)

06/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The setting in some areas is sufficiently organised. However, there are a number of weaknesses which impact on the overall provision and children's learning. This is mostly because of the childminder's lack of confidence in her practice and she not taken any steps to improve her provision since the last inspection. Though she has just completed training in self evaluation she has not yet begun to implement this and therefore is not aware of her strengths or weaknesses. There are no clear systems in place for parents to raise concerns that they may have about her provision as the childminder does not have written procedures in place. The playroom/conservatory is well resourced, although not very well organised.

Informal discussions with parents about care issues are shared on a daily basis. However, this seems to be more factual rather than evaluative and gives little information about their child's achievements and progression towards the early learning goals. Records are not used effectively to identify children's next steps in learning or to inform future planning of activities to ensure children's ongoing developmental needs are met.

Children are well supervised by the childminder and the risk assessments in place are mostly sufficient to promote their safety and well-being. However, these are not effective as this does not include the garden area as there are a number of hazards identified at this inspection that need to be addressed and smoke alarms are not maintained in good working order. The childminder demonstrates a sound awareness of safeguarding procedures, ensuring that children's Child's welfare is suitably protected from child protection issues.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children benefit from the warm and caring relationships that they share with the childminder. They enjoy the quality time that they spend with her engaged in play. Young children have their individual routines met as they rest, eat and sleep according to their needs.

The childminder has attended a number of courses to support her practice, however, she has not effectively implemented the EYFS training in order to improve outcomes for children. It is unclear just how much progress children are making in their learning whilst in the childminder's care in relation to their starting points. Play opportunities provide sufficient challenge for children attending however, these are unplanned and without pre-determined purpose.

At present the childminder does not evaluate her practice and as a result is unable to move her practice on in order to improve outcomes for children. The childminder has a sufficient understanding of managing policies and procedures which she shares verbally with parents. Most of the required documentation is in place with the exception of some written statements.

Partnerships with parents are sufficient; appropriate information is requested from them about their child at the beginning of the placement and there is a continued verbal exchange of information throughout, keeping both parties up to date about children's overall well-being. However, parents receive no written information about the provision including information how to raise any concerns that they may have regarding the childminder's practice.

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?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
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?	4
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?	4
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 06/04/2009

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 06/04/2009

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

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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.