

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY306648
Inspection date	15/12/2008
Inspector	Jennifer Devine
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 registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and three children aged 15 months, five and nine years in Ruislip, in the London borough of Hillingdon. The childminder uses the ground floor, and the bathroom and one bedroom on the first floor for childminding purposes. There is a secure garden for outdoor play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of two children at any one time. She is currently minding three children in the early years age range, two of these children are part time and share a place. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, the compulsory part of the Childcare Register and the voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children benefit from the warm and loving relationship with the childminder and this enables them to feel secure and happy to explore their learning environment. The childminder treats each child as an individual and works closely with parents to ensure their needs are met effectively. The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and through self-evaluating her practice she is able to identify areas for further development to enhance her provision.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum to ensure children's learning journeys are based on their own individual interests and experiences as they grow and develop.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is competent in her role of promoting children's welfare and learning. Consequently, children are making good progress in their early development. The childminder is extremely attentive to ensuring children's safety is paramount in the home and when outdoors. She is aware of the importance of conducting regular risk assessments to identify and eliminate any potential hazards. The childminder has a clear understanding of child protection and knows the procedure to follow if she was concerned for a child. The childminder understands the importance of evaluating her practice regularly and this has ensured she has made continuous improvements since the last inspection. She is enthusiastic to continue developing her knowledge of the EYFS, through attending training and has literature to help her develop ideas for planning and assessment methods.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are very happy and settled in the childminders care. They have plenty of space to play in the home and are able to make choices from the wide range of toys and play materials available. Children thoroughly enjoy making Christmas cards using glue and different materials. They spend long periods of time with the wooden bricks, building up towers and bridges, knocking them down and lining them up to make a train. The childminder supports children's play and is close by talking to them to extend their learning all the time. Children's behaviour is good and older children have developed a secure understanding of respecting others, being particularly kind and caring to the younger toddlers. The childminder plans lots of opportunities for the children to take part in activities outside the home such as visiting soft play centres and to creative fun sessions where children can take part in craft, singing and music time. The childminder also recognises the importance of outdoor play such as going to the park to enable children to have fresh air and run around. Whilst outdoors she involves children in learning about the natural environment such as when exploring the woods and collecting conkers, acorns and leaves. The children's learning was extended as they then participated in leaf printings when they got home.

The childminder pays particular attention to ensuring the 'settling in' time for new children and parents is not hurried and is a gradual process to enable her and the parents to feel confident with each other. Parents complete an 'all about me' form which gives the childminder valuable information about the child's needs and routines. Good daily communication, verbally and through the use of a daily diary ensures parents are kept well informed and are able to contribute to their child's learning and development. The childminder has developed a generally good system for observing and recording children's progress in individual portfolios. She has an understanding of planning play opportunities but this is in its early stages and is not clearly linked to individual children's needs and interests.

The childminder promotes a healthy eating lifestyle. Children are offered snacks of fruit or plain biscuits and drinks are readily available as required. Currently parents provide their children's food but the childminder would also provide home cooked meals if required.

The childminder teaches children about safety in the home and when outdoors. Older children have joined the 'Traffic club' and enjoy reading and learning about how to keep safe when crossing the roads by using puppets and stickers to reinforce their understanding.

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?	1
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:	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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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.

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.