

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY309921
Inspection date	02/11/2009
Inspector	Helen Deegan
Type of setting	Childminder

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Royal Exchange Buildings
St Ann's Square
Manchester
M2 7LA

T: 08456 404040
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

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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 became registered in 2005. She lives in New Malden in the London Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames close to local amenities and transport links. She lives with her husband who is her assistant childminder. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding plus two bedroom on the first floor which are used for sleeping. There is an enclosed back garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of five children aged under eight and currently has six children on roll. Of these, four are in the early years age range.

The childminder attends local toddler groups and parks on a regular basis.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children's individual needs are well supported by the childminder who provides a well resourced stimulating environment in which they can play purposefully. The childminder evaluates her provision and attends ongoing training to continually update and improve her knowledge. She records observations of the children's activities and knows their abilities well. Children learn about diversity as they play with resources which positively reflect the differences within today's society.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop systems for recording children's achievements so that it relates more specifically to their ability, and plans for the next steps in their learning.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities with regard to child protection. She maintains a clean, safe premises, completes regular risk assessments and has a current first aid qualification. Appropriate policies are in place with regard to child protection, health and safety and the childminder has recently attended safeguarding training. Children are therefore fully safeguarded within the setting.

The childminder thoroughly evaluates her provision and identifies areas for development. She attends ongoing training workshops to update and improve her knowledge and has achieved a level three qualification in home based child care.

Parents receive daily written feedback from the childminder so that they are well informed about how their child has been. Children gain positive messages about diversity as they play with a range of resources which reflect different race, ability, language and culture. She requests information from the children's parents which enables her to meet their individual needs.

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

Children are happy and confident in the childminder's care. They play in a clean, well organised environment and can access a wide range of resources which promote all areas of learning and development. Children enjoy playing with playdough. The childminder sits with them, talking about what they are doing and contributing new language as they play. When a child asks to cook what they have made, the childminder helps them find the oven gloves and put the dough in the play cooker. They then set the timer together, discussing what number to point the dial to. The child smiles happily when the childminder pretends to enjoy the finished product saying 'mmm, delicious'. Children have good opportunities to develop their social and physical skills as they go on daily outings to toddler groups and parks. They grow tomatoes in the garden and use a calendar and weather chart which helps them develop an understanding of time and the changing seasons.

The childminder completes a daily record of activities and events, she takes photographs of the children and observes them so that she knows each child well and can describe their abilities. She writes a summary each month, however this often focuses on what the children have enjoyed rather than what they have achieved.

The childminder completes a monthly report for parents about their child's progress and then invites them to record their comments in her feedback book. She sometimes includes information about what she plans to work on next with the children. She regularly takes photographs of the children playing and has written parental consent for this. She downloads photographs on to a DVD which she provides for the parents. Children enjoy watching the DVD at quiet times and delight in seeing themselves on the TV. Parents provide extremely positive written feedback about the provision.

Children behave well because the childminder is calm and consistent. She provides constant praise and encouragement for their efforts and achievements which promotes their self esteem. Children are encouraged to develop good personal hygiene routines and receive regular snacks and drinks including fresh fruit which supports their health.

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

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	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	2
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	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

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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