

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY320626
Inspection date	01/06/2009
Inspector	Samantha Hunt
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 registered in 2006. She is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband and two children, aged nine and five years, in Hayes, in the London borough of Hillingdon. The childminder uses the whole of the ground floor for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family have two guinea pigs.

The childminder is registered to care for five children at any one time. She is currently caring for two children in the early years age group, both on a part-time basis. She takes children to local parks, libraries and toddler groups. The childminder walks to local schools and nurseries to take and collect children.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. Children play and develop well in a warm and welcoming environment, where their individual needs are valued and respected. The childminder plans a good balance of child-initiated and adult-led activities and experiences, which help children progress in all areas of their learning and development. The childminder has a positive approach to continual improvement and has a desire to improve outcomes for children through regular reflection of her practice.

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 Early Learning Goals and continue to develop assessment records to show clearly how children make progress.
- obtain a copy of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures

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

- maintain a record of when risk assessments are carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident. (Documentation)

30/06/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is well organised with relevant documentation, such as children's attendance records, accurately recorded. Medication records are also effectively completed, with parents being asked to give prior written consent, and the childminder then detailing when she has actually given the medication. The childminder has begun to formally evaluate her practice, which has also involved

requesting written feedback from parents. She demonstrates a good understanding of her strengths and weaknesses, and acknowledges that there are areas she can improve on such as continuing to work closely with parents and attending further training on the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has addressed the recommendation made at her last inspection and continued to go on training to keep up-to-date with changes in practice or regulation.

The childminder ensures children are well safeguarded as she carries out daily checks of her home before children arrive, checking toys and resources regularly to ensure they are clean and safe to use. Safety features such as a correctly fitted fire blanket and stair gates across the kitchen and hallway mean that risks to children are minimised. There are detailed written risk assessments in place for each outing that the childminder undertakes with the children. However, she has not extended this formal system to include the areas children use in her home. The childminder shows a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and is clear about the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against a member of her household. Although the childminder is very clear about what her duty of care towards the children is and who to report concerns to, she does not have a copy of the Local Authority Safeguarding Children Board procedures to refer to for support and guidance.

The childminder forms good working relationships with parents through daily verbal and written communication. There is a good two way flow of information between the childminder and parents via a daily diary. Parents give good feedback via questionnaires to the childminder who is pro-active in addressing issues raised such as providing more information about the activities their children have taken part in. Parents speak of the stimulating activities provided for their children and being very happy with the homely environment the childminder provides.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in a very child-orientated environment, where toys and resources are easily accessible in low level drawers or set out for them by the childminder. Children develop their physical skills as they move around freely both inside and out, and enjoy a game of 'row, row, row the boat' with the childminder. They confidently push the buttons on the activity centre and enjoy splashing and pouring water at the water tray in the garden. Children have lots of opportunities to develop their creative skills as they take part in art and craft activities, and experience the wider world around them on regular outings into the community with the childminder. There are weekly visits to toddler groups which enables the children to learn about interacting with other children and building friendships. The childminder involves herself well in children's learning, supporting their early language with lots of conversation and planning activities that are developmentally appropriate to meet individual needs. She shows a clear knowledge of the early learning goals and is observing children regularly to monitor their learning and development. Observational records are used by the childminder to plan activities and experiences to support children's next steps in learning. However, they are not currently linked to the stepping stones to enable the childminder to effectively see how children make progress in all areas of their learning.

Children stay healthy because the childminder follows good hygiene procedures when changing nappies and ensures children wear hats and sun cream when playing in the garden. Younger children are able to sleep according to their own individual needs in a comfortable cot within sight and hearing of the childminder. Children begin to develop an awareness of their own safety through discussion and practice with the childminder. For example, they practise the emergency evacuation procedure regularly and are taught road safety when on outings. The childminder ensures children are closely supervised and are not able to leave the premises unattended. Children develop a sense of belonging as the childminder displays their art work and provides them with a good selection of toys and resources that promote their cultures and backgrounds. The childminder praises and encourages children well as they play, showing them warmth and kindness, and clearly enjoys being with them.

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:

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:

- implement a written statement of procedures to be followed when safeguarding children and share these with parents (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children)

30/06/2009

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 above (Arrangements for Safeguarding Children)

30/06/2009