

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY339190
Inspection date	19/01/2011
Inspector	Catherine Greene
Type of setting	Childminder

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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 was registered in 2006. She is registered on the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered for five children under eight years, two of whom may be in the early years age range. She currently has one child in the early years age range on roll. She lives in a three bedroom maisonette on the first floor with her partner, their 12 year old son and two year old daughter. The flat is reached by a flight of stairs. She is a member of the National Childminding Association and has a recognised NVQ at level 3 in Childcare and Education.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are cared for in a setting where they are happy, well settled and growing in confidence because the childminder meets their individual needs very well. Her good understanding of how children learn and develop is translated into positive practice which is shared and communicated to parents. The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous improvement and her policies and procedures mostly support this commitment. She attends regular training to update her skills and knowledge.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- review the safeguarding policy and procedure to follow in the event of an allegation being made against the childminder or a member of the household.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The overall welfare of children is positively safeguarded because the childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to act in their best interests at all times. She has a good understanding of safeguarding issues and knows the action to take if she has concerns about a child. She ensures that she keeps herself professionally well informed by attending safeguarding training at regular intervals. She is aware of the role of Ofsted and has a written procedure that she shares with parents. However, although she is aware of what to do, her procedure does not currently cover what course to follow should any allegations be made against herself or a member of her family.

Children's safety is further protected as arrangements have been made in case of an emergency and safe contingency arrangements are in place to ensure children

are well cared for. Good practical safety precautions are taken in the home and children are learning to play safely in the very well organised environment. In addition written risk assessments are regularly updated and reviewed.

Children are positively valued and their backgrounds and abilities highly respected. Through a variety of activities, children are encouraged to learn about the wider world and to respect people who are different from themselves. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure each child's individual needs are taken into good account when planning routines and outings. The settling in period for children is handled sensitively with reassuring support given to parents who may be leaving their child in the care of another for the first time. This contributes towards helping children feel safe and secure in the new setting.

The provider demonstrates a strong commitment to providing a good quality service to children and families. She constantly evaluates and actively seeks ways to improve. Since registration, she has attended various training events, completed NVQ at level 3 and her commitment is ongoing.

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

Children's overall learning and development is well supported by the childminder. The childminder knows about and understands each child's interests and favourite types of play. She is well equipped to plan for their next steps. There are some effective systems in place to assess children's progress with plans for their next steps well recorded in the learning journeys.

The childminder understands well how different activities support particular areas of children's learning and she makes them fun and interesting with younger children benefiting from her close support. She has planned the environment with plenty of good quality play resources and supports children through her interaction with them. She has made her home a child friendly environment, with posters and a well resourced play area. Children are able to make choices and fully engage in play all around the living room.

Children are provided with opportunities to investigate and explore as they re-create roles and experiences. They thoroughly enjoy playing with the ironing board and dust pan and brush in the very well equipped role play area. The childminder's patience and willingness to listen and respond to children helps them feel valued and secure. Children respond with smiles and confidence as they interact with her.

Parents are valued partners and the childminder works sensitively with them to provide an inclusive service. She highly respects parent's views about how their children should be cared for. They are kept very well informed about their child's progress from the outset and are encouraged to play a part in contributing to their children's experience.

Children's overall good health is positively promoted at this setting. A current first

aid certificate also helps ensure she is well equipped in the event of any emergency. All required records relating to children's overall health are in place and reviewed to ensure they meet changes in requirements. Children are developing a good awareness of healthy living. They learn good hygiene during their daily routines and have nutritious meals which they enjoy together with the childminder and her family.

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

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
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	1
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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