

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY358131
Inspection date	03/11/2008
Inspector	Jane Elizabeth Chappell
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 was registered in 2007. She lives with her husband and two children aged seven and one years old. The family live in a two bedroom first floor maisonette in Thornton Heath within the London Borough of Croydon. The lounge and dining room are used for childminding. The family have a pet cat.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for four children under eight years old and there is currently one child in the early years age range on roll.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and the Croydon Childminding Network.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder promotes all aspects of children's welfare and learning well. Children are safe and secure at all times and make good progress in her care. All children are included, their backgrounds are valued and their care and development is individually catered for. There is a close working partnership with parents which contributes to ensuring the needs of all children are effectively met. The childminder strives to improve her provision and has included the views of parents in the evaluation of her service.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop observations of children ensuring that they are clearly matched to the early learning goals and used to inform activity plans.

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

- keep a record of all risk assessments, clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident
(Documentation)

12/11/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Partnerships between parents and the childminder are well established and ensure each child's needs are met. The childminder shares her comprehensive policies and procedures with parents and ensures that as each child starts their parent has a copy and that they are informed as any policy is updated. There is a good two way

flow of communication, which helps children experience consistent care between home and the setting.

Children's welfare is well supported. They are kept safe because the childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of her responsibilities in this area. Her good practice is underpinned by comprehensive written policies and the attendance on relevant training. The Childminder takes appropriate action to ensure that the home and surroundings environments are safe places for children to play. However, a system for recording risk assessment has not yet been implemented.

The childminder continually reflects on her practice. For example, she regularly attends training courses to keep her knowledge up to date. Parents' views are also sought by way of an annual questionnaire when looking at ways to continually improve her service.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder supports children's learning effectively and provides them with a wide variety of experiences that help them make good progress in their learning and development. Children confidently enter the childminder's home, self selecting their chosen toys and equipment, which are set out at low levels, which supports the children's independence. The childminder is warm and responsive to the children, giving them lots of cuddles and affection. She consistently praises them and talks to the children about what they are doing and what may happen next. For example, as the children feed their dolls milk, the childminder also introduces the tea set and toy fruits and uses their interest to extend their knowledge and understanding of healthy fruits.

Children enjoy frequent visits to local parks and community groups, where they are able to mix with other children and develop their social skills. Children's natural curiosity and exploration skills are built on as the childminder engages them in discussions and observations on the environment. For example, when they visit the farm to look and touch the animals and plant a variety of plants and bulbs reflecting the time of year. The childminder encourages children's early literacy development as they talk about what they are doing during day-to-day activities, listen to nursery rhymes, or cuddle up for a story.

The childminder knows the children very well, and has started to keep relevant records of children's progress and achievements and shares these with parents on a regular basis. She uses her observations to think about the next steps for children's learning; however, at present these are not matched to the early learning goals or used as a basis for the following week's planning.

Clear procedures are in place to promote the well being of sick children, and for dealing with accidents and the administration of medication. A wealth of written policies are shared and agreed with parents. Children are safe in the childminder's care as all adults are suitably checked and she assesses potential risks and takes appropriate action to remove any hazards. However, the risk assessments are not recorded for inside or outside the home as required. The childminder talks to the

children about keeping safe, explaining road safety to older children, for example, when out on trips in the school holidays. Due to the clear boundaries and the calm nature of the childminder, behaviour is good.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

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

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Good
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

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 registration.

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.