

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY363761
Inspection date	13/11/2008
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 was registered in 2007. She lives with her husband and three children, aged two, five and nine years in Edgware in the London borough of Barnet. The whole of the ground floor and two bedrooms on the first floor are used for childminding. There is a secure garden for outdoor play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time and is currently minding three children, two of whom are in the early years age range and one child is in the later years age range. 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 affectionate care the childminder provides. This means that children feel secure and happy to explore their surroundings and make good progress in their learning. The childminder works closely with the parents to ensure their children's individual needs are met effectively. The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and through self-evaluating her provision she recognises areas for further development to enhance the good practices in place.

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.

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

- carry out a full risk assessment for each type of outing. (Safeguarding and Welfare)

28/11/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a clear understanding of her role in promoting the welfare and learning of the children in her care. As a result, children are making good progress in their learning and development.

The childminder has clear policies and procedures which are effectively implemented in her setting and most of the required records are maintained efficiently. Children's safety is paramount to the childminder. She has conducted risk assessments on her home, which identify any potential hazards and the steps

taken to eliminate them. She is also vigilant about safety when outdoors but has not kept a record of risk assessments for outings as required. The childminder is secure in her knowledge of safeguarding and understands the procedures to follow if she was concerned about a child. The childminder understands the importance of evaluating her provision to ensure she continues to meet each child's needs. For example, she regularly reflects on the activities provided to ensure they are suitable, enjoyable and are helping to progress children's learning. She is very keen to attend relevant training courses to continue to develop her knowledge of the EYFS, to benefit outcomes for children. The childminder's good understanding of self-evaluation processes ensures she has made continuous improvement since registration.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are very happy and settled in the childminder's care. They have ample space to explore their environment and make choices from the wide range of play materials and resources. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure she is fully aware of each child's individual needs, routines and interests. Parents are kept well informed about their child's day through the use of daily diaries and regular verbal communication. They are actively involved in their child's learning with the childminder as they are welcomed to make suggestions and share home learning experiences. The childminder works closely with the local school to ensure she is aware of the older children's education which enables her to ensure continuity with their learning in the home.

The childminder has developed effective systems for observing and assessing young children's learning needs. Through observation and talking with the parents she is able to build up a picture of the young child's interests and developmental needs. From this information she then draws up individual plans which cover all areas of learning and provides the child with worthwhile everyday activities and experiences. Her knowledge of the EYFS curriculum is continuing to evolve to ensure children progress in their learning journeys as they grow and develop. Children have good daily opportunities to experience a varied range of outdoor activities such as visits to the park or visiting the local children's centres where they learn to socialise with other children. Young children enjoy exploring and experimenting in the home environment with natural materials such as dried pasta. They thoroughly enjoy scooping up the pasta, pouring it into bottles or boxes and then emptying out onto the floor. Young children are developing their dexterity as they enjoy mark making on paper with chunky crayons. The childminder ensures she is close by to supervise young children's play to ensure they do not put the toys such as crayons in their mouths. Children enjoy looking at books and the childminder spends quality time talking to the children about interesting features in the books which encourages children's early language skills to emerge.

The childminder promotes a healthy eating lifestyle. Children are offered a choice of healthy snacks such as fruits, vegetables and bread sticks and drinks are readily available. The childminder also provides home cooked meals which are nutritionally balanced and meet each child's dietary needs. The childminder manages children's behaviour positively. She uses stickers as rewards for positive behaviour and has

good methods in place for dealing with any unwanted behaviours. She talks to the younger children often, reminding them about being kind, helping each other and sharing toys.

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

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.