

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY367103
Inspection date	28/04/2010
Inspector	Naomi Brown
Type of setting	Childminder

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

T: 0300 123 1231
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 was registered in 2008. She lives with her husband, children, aged three years and one year, mother-in-law and adult sister-in-law. The family live in a four bedroom house in the London borough of Barnet. The areas of the home used for childminding purposes include the living room, kitchen, bathroom and bedrooms on the first floor. There is a rear garden available for outdoor play and there are parks and open spaces within easy walking distance. Access to the house is via a step.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time, of whom one may be in the early years age range. The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. When working with another childminder, she may care for a maximum of four children in the early years age group. There are currently four children on roll.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the setting as the childminder is warm and welcoming towards them. The childminder has a suitable attitude towards supporting her service with clear paperwork. However, she does not currently hold a valid first aid certificate which is a breach of specific legal requirements. The childminder works closely with another childminder at the setting and this improves her ability to meet children's needs. The childminder has implemented steps to communicate with parents and this helps her to offer continuity of care for children who attend her setting.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the understanding of safeguarding children procedures
- further develop systems of observation and assessment to improve the links between observations and planning children's next steps for learning.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are adequately safeguarded as the childminder has developed appropriate policies and procedures to promote their welfare. While the childminder understands her responsibility to record and report concerns, her knowledge of local procedures is basic. The childminder works closely with another childminder at the setting who offers her great support. The childminder is well positioned to develop her practice further as she is learning from her co-minder and has plans to attend further training, for example, surrounding managing health plans to

improve her ability to protect the health of children in her care. However, the childminder does not currently hold a valid first aid certificate which is a breach of requirements. Her co-minder does hold a valid first aid certificate and is always on the premises so the impact on children is minimised.

The childminder maintains policies and procedures that underpin suitable care for children. She maintains clear records of the risk assessments undertaken for inside, outside and for outings to ensure that risks to children's safety are effectively minimised. The childminder has an appropriate emergency evacuation procedure in place and children have practised this to encourage their developing awareness of managing their own safety.

The childminder provides an inclusive environment for children, organising her home well so that children can move around freely and access a suitable range of toys and equipment at any one time, including resources that reflect positive images of diversity. Children who have English as an additional language are supported well and the childminder converses with all children in English.

The childminder forms secure relationships with the parents in order to build a partnership of care to suit those who use her service. She provides daily feedback about what the children do and parents have access to assessment information about their children. There are appropriate systems in place for keeping required records to support children's health, safety and well-being. The childminder requests that all parents provide written consent for outings, photographs, observations and emergency medical treatment. Therefore parents can feel secure that their children's welfare needs are being met.

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

Children are able to develop skills for the future as they have access to simple technology and books that help them understand the world around them. Activities, for example, those including 'people who help us' help children to understand their local community and important aspects of the wider world. Children enjoy their time in the setting and join in musical activities with enthusiasm. They enjoy singing along and dancing to a range of familiar music, acting out their songs and playing instruments along to songs such as 'I am the music man'. Children are enthusiastic during their play; they enjoy preparing a 'play dough' birthday cake for a sleeping child and hide to surprise them when they wake, delighting in the surprise. This is indicative of the warm relationships they have built with each other and is a result of the childminder's clear example as a suitable role model.

The childminder makes observations of children's activities and uses these to link activities to individual areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Assessments of children's progress are accurate. However, these are not currently used to plan the next steps for learning to inform children's greater progress.

Younger children's physical development is extended as they are encouraged to

pull themselves up and develop standing skills with an appropriate range of equipment. All children are able to develop small muscle skills as they operate a range of cutters and pens, and use drinking cups with control. Older children enjoy role play and use their imagination well while playing with the plates, cutlery, utensils and play food that are available. They prepare a range of healthy meals that they pretend to eat, while explaining that they have made a 'salad' or 'soup' from play fruit and vegetables. The minding environment is hygienic which promotes their health and welfare. They enjoy healthy, nutritious meals and snacks and plenty of drinks, which are readily available to them in individual lidded cups. Parents currently provide food that the children eat, however, the childminder has a suitable understanding of the need to provide a healthy diet for children. She has arranged to attend a food hygiene course so that she can ensure she is preparing food safely for children.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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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:

- attend an appropriate paediatric first aid course (Qualifications and training) 22/07/2010

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 (Qualifications and training). 22/07/2010