

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY370265
Inspection date	08/04/2009
Inspector	Susan Mary Deadman
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 2008. She lives with her husband and two year old child. The family lives in Ickenham within the London Borough of Hillingdon. The whole of the ground floor is available for childminding with rest and toilet facilities upstairs. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and currently cares for two children within the early years age range and one older child. The childminder takes children to and collects them from local schools. The family have no pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the outcome is good. Children enjoy themselves at the childminder's home, which offers them an exciting and welcoming environment. They make good progress in their learning and development due to the childminder's clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. The childminder meets the needs of each child attending as she works effectively with their parents and other professionals. The childminder monitors her practice and has the capacity for continual improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop the planning and assessment of activities to ensure they cover all areas of learning
- ensure risk assessments cover each specific outing.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder evaluates her practice and identifies her strengths and areas for improvement. She is committed to enhancing her provision to benefit the children in her care and uses the information to make effective changes. There are generally good systems in place to observe, assess and plan for each child's stage of development. The childminder has attended recent training and is adapting her planning accordingly.

Children benefit from the effective systems of communication in place with parents. The childminder provides parents with several policies and procedures, which ensures they are aware of how she manages specific situations. Children's welfare is safeguarded as the childminder has a clear understanding of child protection issues and the referral procedure. A written child protection policy and complaints procedure is shared with parents, which ensures they understand her

role and responsibilities.

The written and verbal exchange of information updates parents on their child's time at the setting. Competent communication with the children's school promotes the continuity of their educational development.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has a very clear understanding of how children learn and supports their general well-being to good level. By working closely with parents, the childminder familiarises herself with the children's individual needs and provides appropriate and consistent care. The childminder records planning and completes observations and evaluations on some activities to ensure all areas of learning are covered.

Children participate in a good range of interesting activities. For example, they plant sunflower seeds in individually decorated plant pots. During this activity they support their mathematical and problem solving skills by counting each scoop of soil, predicting the amount of soil they require and count the number of seeds planted. Children enjoy art and craft activities, such as Easter card making, as well as more tactile activities, such as water and sand play.

Children make regular use of the well-equipped garden to promote their physical development and practice their increasing mobility skills. They take great delight in driving in their cars, kicking the football and using the small slide. They are beginning to learn to take responsibility for their own safety and successfully negotiate low-level outside steps.

Good organisation of each play area supports children's independence. Toys and play equipment are well organised in easily accessible boxes which are labelled and stored appropriately to encourage children to tidy up after themselves. Children play very well together; they are given much praise time and attention, which promotes their positive self esteem.

The childminder is vigilant and ensures there are no obvious safety hazards for children in the home and garden. She completes written risk assessments, which include outings, although they are general and do not relate to each specific venue.

The childminder takes good steps to safeguard children's welfare. She maintains the required records to support the children's needs. The childminder informs parents about various aspects of her service and gains their consent for issues such as medication and emergency medical treatment. Children are familiar with the daily routines which promote their health and minimise the spread of infection.

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