

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY423825
Inspection date	22/09/2011
Inspector	Catherine Greene
Type of setting	Childminder

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2011

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 2011. She lives in the Muswell Hill area with her son who is aged three years. She works from the home of her co-childminder who lives with her husband and two children aged two years and four years old. They live in a three bedroom maisonette within the Muswell Hill area of London borough of Barnet. The main areas to be used for childminding comprises of kitchen, living room, downstairs toilet, first floor bathroom and two bedrooms. The childminder is registered to care for no more than two children under eight years; of these, not more than two may be in the early years age group; and of these, not more than one may be under one year at any one time. Access to the premises is via two flights of stairs from street level. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There is currently one child in the early years age group on roll.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. They are supported closely by a caring childminder with their achievements followed through their favourite play activities and outings. Development profiles although newly introduced mostly cover areas of learning and next steps are planned for very well. The childminder shows a strong capacity to maintain continuous improvement and develop the quality of her service through self-evaluation, personal development and working closely with parents.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- establish an individual system for tracking children's development; in order to make it easier to follow and to enable parents to make regular contributions to their children's progress records.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Good systems are in place to help safeguard children. The childminder shows a clear awareness of safeguarding procedures, ensuring she knows exactly what to do if she has any concerns regarding children's safety or welfare. All members of the household have been vetted for suitability. Risk assessments are carried out effectively in the home and for outings to ensure children's safety. Policies and procedures are clearly written and consent from parents is in place and used appropriately. The childminder holds a first aid qualification and has written

consent in place to seek emergency medical advice or treatment for the children in her care.

The childminder enjoys her work and has developed a secure partnership with her co-childminder and parents. She promotes partnership and inclusion well by involving parents in on-going communication. This is further supported by a daily diary sheet which includes photos to show children having fun as they play. The childminder spends time during settling in sessions to find out about each child's religious and cultural background, including their interests and abilities. This is in order to establish a starting point for children's learning. She knows the Early Years Foundation Stage well making good use of the guidance in order to support children's ongoing learning and social skills. Partnerships established with the local authority enable the childminder to consistently improve through regular training and quality assurance. Although systems for evaluating children's next steps are in place some work is required to separate out developmental profiles from general registration documents in order to provide a clear picture of children's on-going progress.

Resources are well presented and the childminder is skilled at making learning fun. She prioritises her time so that she can play with children giving lots of attention and in order to get to know the children well. The childminder demonstrates a good level of commitment and dedication to improvements and in supporting children's welfare and learning and is very keen to increase her knowledge.

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

The childminder is affectionate and caring with children; as a result they are confident, happy and settled. They play with a wide range of good quality resources that provide challenge and stimulation for them. There are also a good selection of resources and books that promote diversity. The childminder has established links with other childcare providers such as local Children's Centres and playgroups where children can socialise and try new activities.

Children are 'at home' in the relaxed and comfortable space provided. They enjoy a range of activities including role play and their favourite construction and electronic toys. They smile and respond in delight as they receive praise for knowing and being able to say the names of different colours and when asked where points on their bodies are they cleverly point to their ears and nose, for example. They are involved in creative play and their artistic efforts are proudly displayed alongside their photos in their folders.

The co-childminder's home is resourced well with a range of play equipment and materials to encourage children's learning and development. Children enjoy what they are doing; showing curiosity and making decisions about the activities they want to participate in. They enjoy time both at home and on daily outings to playgroups and the local park, where they are able to develop confidence in coordination and physical skills.

Children's confidence and self-esteem is developed by the support, encouragement and praise of the childminder. They are forming positive relationships as they play independently as well as alongside their peers at playgroups. They are developing their understanding of keeping themselves safe, as the childminder calmly and sensitively manages children. She gives them clear, consistent boundaries and appropriate guidelines and explanations of expected behaviour.

Very good measures are in place to promote children's good health and these are clearly shared with children's parents. Children have regular exercise and fresh air and the childminder encourages children to eat a well balanced diet in consultation with their parents. Children's good health is well supported with water and healthy, well balanced snacks and meals.

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	2
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	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
--	---

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

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
--	-----