

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY388321
Inspection date	17/08/2009
Inspector	Arda Halls
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 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 one child aged 20 months in the area of Wood Lane in the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The whole of the ground floor flat is used for childminding which is easily accessible. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play and children are regularly taken to the local park. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time and is currently minding three children under five, one on a part time basis. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local drop-in groups and is a member of a local childminder support group and the National Childminding Association. The family have no pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. The childminder does not demonstrate the capacity to make continuous improvements for children's welfare, learning and development, although she is committed to improving her service through better self-evaluation and consultation with the local authority. Children's welfare is not promoted, for example, the childminder has breached her conditions of registration in relation to the numbers of children for whom she cares. This impacts on children's safety and welfare. However, the childminder offers a warm and friendly environment in which children and their parents are made welcome. Children come from diverse backgrounds and have appropriate opportunities to learn more about diversity which comes about from the childminder's attitude and a sufficient supply of toys and books.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- meet the requirements for adult: child ratios to ensure safety and meet the needs of the children (Safeguarding and welfare) 30/09/2009
- request parental consent at the time of the child's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any emergency medical advice or treatment in the future (Safeguarding and welfare) 30/09/2009
- take necessary steps to promote the welfare of children by ensuring that documentation for children contains details of their individual needs, such as details of immunisation and names of children's 30/09/2009

- doctors (Documentation)
- improve risk assessment of the premises to ensure risk assessments are fully implemented including making hazards such as toilet brush, small unsuitable toys and locks on doors inaccessible to children (Safeguarding and welfare) 30/09/2009
- promote the good health of the children, taking necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection with regard to nappy changing, hand washing and drying (Promoting good health) 30/09/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder does not sufficiently safeguard the children in her care as she has not met some of the welfare requirements. There is no parental consent for emergency medical advice or treatment. The childminder is caring for more children than their conditions of registration allow. This is an offence unless the provider gives a reasonable excuse. On this occasion the provider did so and Ofsted does not intend on taking further action. Because of the additional children being cared for they are not being given sufficient attention and care. This impacts on the effectiveness of the setting.

The childminder works in partnership with parents, sharing information about what children are doing and how they are progressing. They are provided with information about the setting; however, the childminder does not have basic details of all minded children. Most written consent is in place, such as consent for outings, photographs and for the use of sun cream which helps to protect children. However, there is no parental consent at the time of the child's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any emergency medical advice or treatment in the future. The childminder talks to parents at the beginning and the end of everyday which helps to support children's needs and to plan appropriate activities.

The childminder conducts some risk assessments of her home and the garden area to help identify potential hazards to children. However, there are hazards that have not been identified. The toilet brush and lock on the bathroom door are both accessible to children which means children are not sufficiently protected in this area. There are toys accessible to young children with small pieces which they put in their mouth. This is unsuitable for young children as they are in danger of choking.

The childminder has attended some childminder training courses to support her work as a childminder. She recognises the importance of updating training and has secured further training for the coming year. She is working towards evaluating her practice, however, she has not sufficiently identified areas of weakness of her childminding practice. She does not have effective procedures in place to support children's safety at all times due to over minding.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's health and well-being is not sufficiently promoted. Their welfare is compromised because the hygiene practice is not always sound. Gloves are not worn during nappy changing and children's hands are not washed before lunch. Children do wash their hands after lunch, however, they share a communal towel, which does not promote an effective procedure to prevent cross contamination. Children do, however, enjoy healthy nutritious meals with the childminder which provides them with a sociable time before their sleep. Drinks are freely available to children throughout the day which prevents children becoming dehydrated.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe as the childminder talks to them about safety, such as holding hands when crossing the road. However, children's safety is not sufficiently promoted due to the childminder not effectively addressing all safety issues. Children have opportunities to learn about diversity as the childminder has a range of resources to reflect the wider community, such as books in languages spoken by the children.

The childminder's knowledge of the learning and development requirements is satisfactory. The childminder has a sound understanding of how young children learn and develop and uses this to provide an interesting range of activities. There are large numbers of toys and resources that are easily accessible from which children can choose. However, some toys are not appropriate for babies as they contain small pieces.

Children's love of books is fostered as they are easily accessible for children to explore and enjoy. There are regular outings to the library to choose new and exciting books. Children have opportunities to draw and make marks whenever they wish. They are generally interested in playing with plastic fruits and vegetables and serving one another cups of pretend tea. They are learning to be sociable and they are learning the names of many fruits and vegetables. The children clearly enjoy this play, although there are frequent disputes over favourite toys. The childminder constantly distracts the children when they cannot share the 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?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	4
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	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 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:

- meet the requirements for adult: child ratios to ensure safety and meet the needs of the children (Welfare of the children being cared for)

30/09/2009