

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number 143846
Inspection date 22/09/2009
Inspector Jane Elizabeth Chappell

Type of setting Childminder

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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 1999. She lives with her 19 year old son, who is present during the university holidays, in a two bedroom house in Merton within the London borough of Lambeth. The lounge and hallway are used for childminding and the bathroom facilities are situated on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family pets are a dog and a cat.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, no more than three of which may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding two children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder has an insecure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and therefore is unable to effectively support the welfare, learning and development of children in the early years age group. The childminder's weak understanding of regulatory matters such as, welfare, safeguarding and documentation, means that children's safety and wellbeing are not always ensured. In addition, a lack of regular self-evaluation by the childminder, and ability to keep up to date with changes in the early years profession, means that key areas for development to maintain the quality of provision are not identified.

Overall, the early years provision requires immediate action. Ofsted will take enforcement measures to ensure children's safety and compliance with the welfare, learning and development requirements or will cancel registration.

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:

- obtain parental permission, at the time of the child's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment in the future (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 20/10/2009
- keep written records of all medicines administered to children, and inform parents (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) - also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register 20/10/2009
- obtain prior written permission for each and every 20/10/2009

- medicine from parents before any medication is given (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) - also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register
- maintain and keep records for each child that must include the child's full name, date of birth and the name and address of every parent or carer, their emergency contact details and information on whom the child lives with (Documentation) 20/10/2009
- devise and implement an effective safeguarding children policy and procedure which complies with the procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) - also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register 10/11/2009
- devise and implement a system to carry out a full risk assessment for each type of outing, which includes an assessment of required adult:child ratios. This assessment must take account of the nature of the outing and be reviewed before embarking on each specific outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 10/11/2009
- ensure there is sufficient information kept about the medical condition of any child with long term medical needs and the medicines the child needs to take (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 10/11/2009
- ensure that Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks are carried out for any household member over the age of 16 by completing the appropriate forms and sending them to the regulator, Ofsted (Suitable people) - also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register 10/11/2009
- conduct a risk assessment and review it regularly- at least once a year or more frequently where the need arises (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) - also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register 10/11/2009
- implement a clearly defined procedure for the emergency evacuation of the premises (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 10/11/2009
- plan and provide experiences which are appropriate to each child's stage of development as they progress towards the early learning goals (Organisation) 11/11/2009
- undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs (Organisation) 10/11/2009
- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (Documentation) - also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register 10/11/2009
- gain knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development 10/11/2009

requirements so that children are provided with an educational programme that will enable them to make progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning (Early learning goals)

Ofsted will take enforcement measures to ensure children's safety and compliance with the welfare, learning and development requirements or may take action to prosecute or cancel your registration.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The service she offers is not sufficiently well organised and planned to ensure that children's needs are met. Consequently children are not fully safeguarded and their safety is compromised. The childminder has made one improvement since the last inspection; however, the requirement to ensure all people living in the house, over the age of 16 years have completed suitability checks has not been met. Moreover, because the childminder has not been proactive in reading and assessing what she has to develop to comply with the requirements of the EYFS, many of these requirements have not been met. As a result, children's welfare, learning and development is seriously compromised. Risk assessments have not been carried out or recorded to ensure all potential risks are identified and acted upon. Fire safety arrangements are also insufficient, there is no fire evacuation plan in place and emergency evacuations are not practised with children. Also, a daily record of children's attendance including the hours of attendance is not maintained. These failings place children at risk in the event of an emergency.

Partnerships with parents are not sufficiently developed. Parents do not receive sufficient information about the childminder's service and she does not have written parental permission to seek necessary emergency medical advice or treatment. She does not have emergency contact numbers for each child should their parent not be contactable. Information detailing children's specific needs is not in place for all children. These are specific legal requirements of the EYFS and result in the childminder being unaware of the parents' wishes should an emergency occur. Furthermore, there is no complaints procedure in place should parents have a concern. The lack of information the childminder records about children, and that she provides for parents, limits how well she is able to meet children's needs and work in partnership with parents. Consequently, the organisation of the setting is poor, and records for the safe management of the setting and to meet children's needs are not available.

The provider has committed an offence by failing to notify us of a significant event. This is a specific legal requirement in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Ofsted does not intend to prosecute on this occasion.

The childminders capacity to improve is poor, she has no self-evaluation system to monitor and evaluate her provision. As a result, the childminder is unable to identify her strengths and weaknesses or target areas for improvement. Furthermore, little action has been taken to secure improvement since the last

inspection. Consequently, children's welfare, learning and development are seriously compromised.

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

The childminder's lack of knowledge of the EYFS means that children's learning and development is significantly restricted as they are not being offered suitable experiences which both challenge and stimulate them. Lack of planning means that, whilst children are kept occupied during the day, they are not offered a balanced curriculum that reflects all of the six areas of learning. This hinders their learning and enjoyment as these activities lack excitement and differentiation and are not based on the individual interests of the children. Children are generally settled at the childminder's and have established caring relationships with the childminder. For example, they receive emotional comfort as the childminder cuddles a child when she recognises they become tired.

The childminder demonstrates an understanding of the importance of reducing the risk of infection through the use of routines such as encouraging the children to wash their hands prior to eating. She provides children with a healthy diet and children have daily opportunities for fresh air and to develop skills such as climbing, running, throwing and catching as they visit the park and the one o'clock club daily. However, she does not record any existing injuries, accidents children may have had or medication given to the children, this places children at risk in the event of an accident or illness.

The lack of observation and evaluation of children's development and progress within the six areas of learning means that the childminder is unable to share information on children's progress with parents, or utilise information from home to plan activities based on children's interests and what they can do, to further support their learning. The childminder offers the children some support whilst playing with the toys, such as when they look for the missing letter from the puzzle, and she encourages them to tidy up prior to getting out more toys, discussing with them about safety and their risk of tripping over the toys on the floor.

Little attention is paid to encouraging children to develop an awareness of today's diverse society, and toys and resources which offer positive images on the wider world are limited. Children also have few opportunities to develop their creative skills as these are generally only available whilst visiting an outside group.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	4
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	4
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	4
The effectiveness of partnerships	4
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	4

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	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	4
The extent to which children feel safe	4
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	4
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	4
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	4

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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:

- devise a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints (Procedures for dealing with complaints) - applies to both parts of the Childcare Register 10/11/2009

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 in the compulsory Childcare Register section of the report 10/11/2009