

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	143660
Inspection date	22/01/2010
Inspector	Martha Naa Ahimah Darkwah

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 registered in 1994. She lives with her husband and an adult son, in Hammersmith area of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The childminder uses the hallway and a dedicated room in the fourth floor flat for childminding. There is no enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder makes use of local facilities, such as parks, the library and toddler groups. The family pets include tropical fish and a Yorkshire terrier dog.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She may care for a maximum of three children at any one time. The childminder is currently minding two children full-time and one child part-time in the early years age group and two children in the older age group.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder has made some improvements since the last inspection. For example, she has renewed her first aid certificate and obtained written parental consent for emergency medical advice or treatment. However, she has not developed sufficient understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to assist her in implementing the requirements. She does not reflect or evaluate her practice effectively therefore is unable to identify strengths and areas requiring further development in order to improve the provision and outcomes for children. As a result, a number of requirements, including some relating to safeguarding children, are not met. Children develop warm relationships with the childminder and are full of self esteem and confidence. The childminder provides a welcoming environment for both children and their parents.

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:

- implement an effective safeguarding children policy and procedure which includes the requirement to notify any child protection agency (usually local children's services or the police) previously identified by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), 08/02/2010

- without delay, of allegations of abuse (Safeguarding and welfare)
- develop a robust process for ongoing self-evaluation that covers all aspects of the childcare in order to identify the strengths and priorities for development that will improve the quality of provision for all children (Organisation) 08/02/2010
- carry out a full risk assessment for each outing, which includes an assessment of required adult to child ratios. This assessment must take account of the nature of the outing and must be reviewed before embarking on each specific outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 08/02/2010
- develop the procedure to be followed in the event of a parent failing to collect a child at the appointed time (Safeguarding and welfare) 08/02/2010
- develop the procedure to be followed in the event of a child going missing (Safeguarding and welfare) 08/02/2010

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to develop observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs and plan for their next steps in learning based on their interests

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a secure understanding of the procedures to follow with regard to recording accidents, although she does not always ensure the confidentiality of all children is maintained in these records. She has a generally sound understanding of how to maintain a safe environment for children and effectively uses measures such as smoke alarms, safety gates and electric socket protectors to reduce risks to children's safety. She makes a record of her risk assessment identifying hazards and taking adequate steps to make them safe.

The childminder does not keep a written statement of procedures to be followed to protect children from abuse or neglect. She has a working knowledge and awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse. However, she is unable to fully safeguard children as she is not aware of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures or her responsibility and processes to follow in reporting any allegations of abuse to the local children's services. This is a breach of requirements.

Appropriate children's records are maintained and relevant levels of consent are in place to ensure children's well-being. However, a number of policies and procedures are not in place to fully support her practice. This is a breach of requirements. These include safeguarding, complaints, risk assessments for outings and the procedure to be followed in the event of a child going missing or

not being collected by the parent at the appointed time. The childminder has developed written risk assessments on indoor and outdoor aspects.

The childminder has created a stimulating child centred environment for children. For example, there is a dedicated room with a broad range of resources that are stored in labelled clear boxes within easy reach of children. She organises activities taking into account the individual interests of each child. There is an adequate range of resources covering all areas of learning with substantial resources reflecting positive images of the diverse society in which the children live.

The childminder develops effective relationships with parents. The setting has secure systems in place to share information with parents. She verbally exchanges information daily with them regarding children's activities and provides letters with useful information relating to the routines of the provision. She is yet to establish systems to discuss children's learning at home with their parents and provide support to further their progress. Parents are happy with the care and activities provided by the childminder. They particularly like the welcoming nature of the childminder and the variety of activities undertaken by the children in the dedicated room. The childminder is beginning to foster links with the schools and pre-schools the children attend. She liaises with staff and parents to provide consistency for children.

The childminder has limited systems in place to self-evaluate her practice effectively. This affects her ability to identify sound areas for continuous improvement to meet EYFS , the childcare and voluntary register. As a result, this inspection identified a number of breaches of requirements on all three registers.

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

The children are making sound progress across all areas of learning and development. She has systems in place to conduct observational assessment on children. However the information is not sufficiently used to plan to meet young children's individual needs and plan for their next steps in learning based on their interests.

The childminder manages children and their behaviour well. She is patient and calm giving clear explanations to children of why they should not do something and uses distraction with younger children. Consequently, children behave well. The childminder also uses explanation well to develop children's knowledge of how to keep themselves safe.

Children's language development is progressing well as the childminder listens to what they say and responds positively developing their confidence and self-esteem. Children particularly enjoy using play dough to create different shapes and ideas. They pat, roll and use different textured rolling pin cutters to make interesting items. One child happily exclaimed 'I am going to roll this' referring to tractor- wheels on the dough. Another child pressed the dough through press stating 'this is chips'. The childminder extended play as the dough got squashed

squeezed into various shapes.

Planned activities develop children's understanding of their own culture and a number of activities are undertaken to develop their knowledge of the lives of other people. Children's confidence and self esteem is evident as they confidently sing nursery rhymes with the support of the childminder whilst engaged in play dough activity.

The childminder uses visual time table and this is linked to the 'five- a -day healthy eating chart'. Children eagerly eat healthy snacks of cut fruits. Children are provided with healthy foods, they enjoy freshly cooked foods such as pasta and cheese. Children enjoy lunch time as a social occasion as the childminder sits with the children and children are given adequate chances for developing their independence at this time. All children have constant access to a drink throughout the day developing understanding of frequent drinks as part of a healthy lifestyle. The childminder ensures that children wash their hands prior to eating food and after messy activities to fully support their good health and further children's understanding of effective personal hygiene routines. Children have daily outings to a variety of local parks to develop their physical skills.

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	3

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	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
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	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
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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	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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report 08/02/2010
- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed to protect children from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 08/02/2010

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:

- keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 08/02/2010