



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY279637
Inspection date	20 December 2005
Inspector	Carol Brown

Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Childminding

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in May 2005. The childminder lives with her husband and two children aged 5 and 9 years. They live in the Walthamstow area of the London borough of Waltham Forest. All of the ground floor, children's bedroom and bathroom upstairs are used for childminding. There is an open communal garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for three children at any one time and is currently caring for two children. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a diverse range of activities, which contribute to their good health. They are cared for in a warm, clean home where they are learning about personal care and hygiene. Daily routines are helping children to understand the value of regular exercise, healthy eating and the importance of hand-washing to prevent the spread of infection. Regular outdoor activities support children's physical development and wellbeing; for example, the children are regularly taken to local parks. They are able to access new challenges and develop already acquired physical skills.

Children benefit from a reasonably healthy, balanced diet and have access to drinks at all times. Parents are consulted about their children's dietary requirements including individual preferences. Children are becoming aware of their own physical needs and are confident to request a drink or a snack.

The childminder does not have a current first aid qualification; however, she has a sound understanding of the ways in which protect children from infection, basic first aid techniques and effective hygiene practices.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming home where risks are identified and minimised; for example, they are reminded not to run in the home. Children are able to move around safely and independently. The childminder gives priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe; for example, they are learning about road safety awareness.

The children have access to a range of toys and equipment, which meet safety standards. The childminder supervises the children's choice of toys to ensure that they are safe and appropriate for their age and stage of development.

Children are protected. The childminder has a reasonable understanding of the physical and emotional signs, which could be indicative of child protection issues in line with the Area Child Protection Committee procedures and is willing to develop her knowledge in this area.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are becoming competent learners as they are able to make some choices, explore and investigate, problem solve and ask questions. Children spend their time purposefully and are actively engaged and interested in the activities provided. The

childminder is aware of their needs and provides alternative activities when children request them. Children's access to resources is generally well met and they are able to access books, toys and games easily; however, resources for younger children are limited.

Children enjoy being in the company of the childminder as she provides them with a varied range of activities, which promotes their learning in an enjoyable way. The children relate well to the childminders own children.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with a reasonable range of resources and play materials which present positive images of society, which helps them to develop their knowledge and understanding of the wider community. Children are respected as individuals and have access to some resources, which reflect their culture and ethnicity. Children's behaviour is good, this is as a result of the childminder developing consistent methods to manage their behaviour, which takes into account the child's age, level of understanding and maturity. Children play well together and show concern for each other.

Children's needs are generally well met and their daily routines are shared with parents. Parents are regularly consulted as to their children's individual care needs and the services provided by the childminder, thereby ensuring adequate continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. Children feel secure in a reasonably well organised environment. They are confident to make demands on the childminder in the knowledge that their requests will be appropriately met. Parents are given daily verbal reports on their children's progress. Children's care and development is supported through the childminders commitment to providing a caring and supportive environment. There are systems in place to keep children safe and enable them to make progress. The childminder keeps daily attendance registers; however, these do not always accurately reflect the children's arrival and departure times.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

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.

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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children
- develop resources and activities that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- ensure that registers accurately reflect children's arrival and departure time

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