



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY313888
Inspection date 26 April 2006
Inspector Caroline Preston

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and 2 children aged 2 and 5 years. The family live in a house in Hornchurch, Essex which is within walking distance of local schools, shops and parks. The whole of the property is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum 4 children aged under 8 years at any one time. She is currently caring for 1 child under 8 years old daily.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and clean environment, they benefit from the high level of cleanliness and hygiene throughout the home which effectively contributes to limiting the risk of cross infection. This is further supported by the childminder reminding children to wash their hands. The systems and organisation of nappy changing are very efficient by ensuring that the surfaces are kept clean and protected through the use of gloves and anti-bacterial spray. The childminder does not have current first aid training.

Children benefit from a healthy and nutritious diet, they are provided with well balanced meals which take into consideration children's individual dietary needs. Outings to local parks and regular access to a well equipped and safe garden provide children with opportunities for vigorous exercise to develop their physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children move confidently around the bright, welcoming learning environment. Space is well organised and used effectively to allow children opportunities to engage in a varied range of activities. Children use high quality toys and equipment that are appropriate for their age and stage of development. The childminder's vigilance and awareness of safety issues minimises risks and ensures children's safety. Toys and resources are clean, safe and age-appropriate, they are stored at low level so that children can access them safely and easily. The childminder has a sound knowledge of child protection issues and is clear regarding her role and responsibilities and of the procedure to follow if she had concerns. This supports children's well-being and safeguards their welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and content. There is an obvious warmth between them and the childminder and they enjoy each other's company. Children's needs are known and followed and this ensures that the younger children in particular gain security and confidence within the environment. The childminder plans her day well, providing a wide range of stimulating activities with a clear understanding of each child's age and stage of development. This helps each child to be kept interested, take part and have fun.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The childminder helps children to settle by asking parents appropriate information concerning their child's routine and individual needs. This guarantees that she has a

good knowledge of each child's individual needs and contributes considerably to children's well-being while in her care. Daily feedback about their child's day keeps parents well informed and helps to provide children with continuity of care. Play materials and resources reflect positive images of all aspects of society. Young children are learning to share, take turns and co-operate with others. The childminder is a good role model, treats children with respect and manages children's behaviour in a calm, positive way. There are good systems in place to support children with special needs.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder has organised the play space, toys, and equipment within her home very effectively. This enables children to play and explore freely without any restrictions. She has organised an inviting play room, where children feel at home and at ease. Children benefit from the childminder's appropriate vetting procedures. The childminder has compiled a comprehensive file of useful information to share with parents. It ensures parents are well informed about her childminding service. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

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.

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

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):

- maintain public liability insurance when minding
- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk