



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	140243
Inspection date	18 May 2006
Inspector	Sandra Wickham
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 has been registered since 1989. Other persons living on the premises are her husband, their adult son and daughter aged under 14 years. The childminder works with her husband who is also a registered childminder, in Tottenham, London borough of Haringey. Areas used for childminding are the ground floor back room, back dining area of the kitchen and two first floor bedrooms. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder currently has four children on roll of pre-school age.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health needs are promoted well, because the childminder meets all regulations with regard to maintaining accident and medication records. Children are well nourished because the childminder meets parental wishes to provide fresh, varied, nutritious meals and snacks, and offers regular drinks. Young children's independence skills are being promoted, because the childminder makes mealtimes an opportunity to help children to enjoy food and become independent at feeding themselves. In addition, children are encouraged to set the table at lunch times. Children have regular access to physical play opportunities both indoors and outdoors, due to the childminder taking children to local parks, toddler groups and the toy library. Children's individual rest needs are met and children are able to rest safely and comfortably in the childminder's care. Children can expect to be responded to appropriately in the event of an accident or emergency as the childminder has attended first aid training and has a good range of first aid supplies that are accessible. The childminder has appropriate emergency contingency plans in place. The childminder has information from the Birth to three matters framework.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to move around safely, freely and independently. Children are able to select toys and resources from a range of good quality toys and equipment, which meets safety standards. Children are becoming aware of how to keep themselves safe as the childminder gives gentle reminders about not standing on chairs or throwing toys, so no one gets hurt. Children are secure and confident in the environment, the childminder takes steps to reduce children's access to hazards on the premises. For instance, a safety gate is fitted across the kitchen cooking area, and smoke alarms are in place on each level of the premises. The childminder has a secure understanding of child protection procedures, having undertaken training and assessments on this topic. Children are protected by her knowledge of possible signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect and the childminder is aware of the relevant procedures to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well settled at the childminder's house and make themselves at home. The children relate well to each other and the childminder. Children are independent as they chose toys and resources from the range of equipment nearby. The childminder knows the children well and makes sure the resources provide children with sufficient challenge to stimulate their creative needs and sensors. Although, children are not fully provided with opportunities to lead their own play without direction from the childminder. Children are encouraged to learn words and meaning by effective interaction in response to rhymes and games. Children spend their time purposefully. For instance, using the crayons to do a picture and drawing on the chalk board.

Children enjoy exploring and investigating the many varied toys and resources which contribute to their creativity and stage of development. They are able to mirror the childminder by clapping their hands together and smiling with contentment with her when she sings nursery rhymes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children learn about cultural and racial diversity, gender and disability, informally through the meaningful range of resources and activities. Children become aware of their differing backgrounds, and learn to value and respect these differences. Their individual needs and family backgrounds are known and effectively met, for example, birthdays are celebrated with a party. Children are pleased when they receive praise from the childminder when they do a drawing with the crayons, or wait to take their turn on the push cars in the garden. This enhances their self esteem and encourages them to try new challenges and make progress. Good partnerships with parents ensure children are consistently cared for, both at home and when with the childminder. For example, when encouraging young to use the potty. Children behave very well with the childminder. Children feel settled and comfortable. They have time to relax as well as be active.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are happy and at ease in the child friendly environment. Children can participate in a group activity, for instance, doing a drawing or puzzles or they can choose to look at the books easily accessible. The childminder is extending her own learning on caring for children, and is developing her practice to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. The childminder ensures daily recorded details of the child's day and their development is shared with the parents. This all contributes to continuity in the children's care. Good planning systems are in place which keep children healthy and safe, and enables them to make good progress in all areas of their development. The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

The childminder has developed her knowledge and understanding of learning needs and disabilities in children, and ensures all children's details are maintained in a confidential manner and ensures systems for all records and policies are updated where appropriate.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints 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):

- develop more opportunities for young children to individually select their own toys and resources

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk