



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY309920
Inspection date	14 September 2006
Inspector	Shama Ahmed
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 was registered in 2004. She lives with her husband and two children aged four and two years. They reside in a quiet residential road in Dagenham, East London. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden area for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five years of age, five days a week. The childminder lives within walking distance to the local primary school to take and collect the children. She also takes the children to the local park on a regular basis.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean home where they learn the importance of good hygiene and personal care. For example, children are always encouraged to wash their hands and they have a good understanding of why they need to do so before and after meals and after going to the toilet. Children are given their own flannels and use this throughout the day to clean their hands and faces. As a result, children follow good everyday routines and this clearly contributes to their good health. The childminder are aware of how to prevent the spread of infections. For example, children are taught to clean their nose with a tissue and dispose of it in the bin otherwise their germs will spread to others. Children are safeguarded well from infections as the childminder has good procedures in place. She changes younger children's nappies on a nappy changing mat, washes her hands straight afterwards and washes down the mat with an antiseptic spray after each use. Children that are ill are not allowed to attend, thus preventing the spread of contagious ailments. If a child has a minor ailment, parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures that children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. Children's physical needs are met well as they enjoy taking part in a good range of activities which contribute to their development. For example, each day they can play with outdoor equipment such the trampoline, swing, slide or digging in the sand. This helps them to develop good control of their bodies. Children are well nourished as they are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Children benefit from a healthy and nutritious diet as meals are cooked by the childminder who takes account of the wishes of parents and the children likes and dislikes. Children's dietary and religious requirements are also taken into consideration when the food is being prepared.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a very safe and secure environment which is warm and welcoming for them to be in and the environment is suitable for the purpose of childminding. Furniture is arranged so that children can move around and play safely within the large amount of space provided. There are good safety measures in place to make the environment secure, such as socket covers, radiator covers, stair guards and high locks on doors. As a result, children are cared for in a suitable environment where risks have been identified and the minimised. Children understand from discussions with the childminder, how to keep themselves safe whilst playing and moving around. Children choose and play independently with toys and resources that are appropriate for their age and stage of development and help to create a stimulating environment. There are a good range of toys available for children to play with. The toys are cleaned every week and well maintained, conforming to British Safety Standards. Children also benefit from good security to ensure that they are unable to leave premises without a suitable adult. On outings, there are good procedures in place to ensure the safety of the children. For example, children travel in push chairs and older children are kept safe by wrist straps. Children have access to a large and fully enclosed and safe outdoor area where they play under full supervision of the childminder who supervises them at all times. In the event of an accident, children will be cared for immediately as a first aid kit is kept at hand. Children are further kept safe where

child protection issues arise as the childminder has a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know what action to take if she have concerns about a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled in the childminders home. Children's individual needs are met well and their welfare is promoted by the childminder who plans and provides activities and play opportunities to develop their emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities. Children choose from a good range of activities that are laid out for them, or by independently selecting what they wish to play with from the low level storage units. Children enjoy playing and learning with various resources such as farm yard animals as the childminder interacts well with the children, asking them stimulating questions that increase their appetite to learn more. As a result, they are beginning to make connections between the toys they play with and what they watch on television. Children are also given the opportunity to read books, sing nursery rhymes, make models with play dough, being creative with paints and crayons, playing with dolls and animal figures, dressing up, playing in the home corner and exploring sand and outdoor equipment such as bikes, swing and slide. They are encouraged to share all the resources and play together to strengthen their social skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children enjoy respectful relationships with the childminder and each other. They are beginning to develop self-confidence and self-esteem. Children are exposed to a good and meaningful range of activities and resources that promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity. For example, they talk about different festivals celebrated by other religions and also discuss disabilities with the childminder. Their knowledge is supplemented well in this area by puppets and dolls in wheel chairs and using crutches. Children are also encouraged to participate in and play with opposite gender toys and dressing up clothes of the opposite sex. This ensures that they have equal opportunities and maximises their enjoyment and potential for learning. There are no children being minded that have special needs. However, the childminder is proactive in ensuring that appropriate action is taken when such a child is identified. Then close liaison with parents and outside agencies ensures that these children's needs are planned for and met. Children's behaviour is calm and relaxed towards each other. They get along and play well together as the childminder constantly praises and encourages good behaviour. Their behaviour is managed consistently as there are good behaviour management strategies in place to help the children to understand right from wrong. This helps to promote their welfare and development. Children's development is further promoted by the childminder who works well in partnership with parents. This is done by sharing information about the children's progress on a daily basis. Also regular informal discussions with parents, ensures good continuity of care for the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children she cares for.

Children are cared for by the childminder who is suitable to do so. Children will be kept safe and secure in the event of an emergency as the childminder is trained as a first aider. Children feel at home and at ease as the environment they play in is well organised and laid out in a safe way. Furniture is arranged to allow maximum space for the children to be able to play freely in, without any danger of being harmed. Children's needs are met effectively by the good organisation of space and resources around them. Children are being introduced to the Birth to three matters framework but this has not yet been fully incorporated in their everyday activities. Records, policies and procedure that are required for the efficient and safe care of the children are being maintained by the childminder who is aware of the need of confidentiality.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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):

- extend the development of babies with a range of activities under the Birth to three matters framework

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