



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY295700
Inspection date	13 September 2006
Inspector	Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi
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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives in a two bedroom purpose-built flat in a residential area within the London Borough of Wandsworth. All of the flat is used for childminding. There is no garden but the childminder makes use of local parks and playgrounds.

The childminder is registered to care for two children under eight years old. There are currently no children on roll.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder shows an understanding of the importance of including physical activity in the daily routine as part of a healthy lifestyle. For instance, she describes how she would make sure children spent time outdoors each day, including visits to local parks and playgrounds. She demonstrates an understanding of how to ensure good hygiene practices are in place and prevent the spread of infection, for example, there is a sign in the bathroom to remind them to wash their hands after using the toilet. In addition, the childminder has recently attended a course to develop her awareness of infection control in the home.

From discussion, the childminder shows an understanding of the importance of a healthy, balanced diet for children, for instance she would ensure that children have fresh fruit and vegetables on a daily basis and she states that she will make sure any individual dietary needs are met.

There are systems in place to record any accidents children have and any medicine they need to be given in order to promote the good health of children and ensure parents are well informed. The childminder can respond appropriately to minor accidents or injuries as she completed a first aid course and has an up to date certificate.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder shows an awareness of safety issues through discussion, and has taken appropriate action to ensure risks to children are minimised, for example, she makes sure that access to the kitchen is restricted and electrical sockets have covers fitted. She explains how she helps keep children safe by supervising them at all times and teaching them about road safety when on outings. Toys and play materials are kept in good condition and the childminder states that she checks them for damage and washes them on a regular basis, in order to make sure children can play safely.

The childminder has attended child protection training and through discussion demonstrates a sound understanding of her responsibilities in relation to child protection issues. She has a copy of local procedures and knows what to do if she is worried about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Through discussion the childminder shows an understanding of how to meet children's individual needs and promote their welfare, for instance she describes how she would develop a familiar routine to help children feel secure. The routine would include time for free play, planned activities, an outing each day and regular meals and times for rest based around children's needs. She describes possible activities at home, including art and craft activities such as drawing or making hand prints with paint, cake making, and growing sunflowers and tomato plants.

The childminder states that outings would include visits to local parks and one o'clock clubs, and she is also happy to take children to specific preschool groups at the request of parents. The childminder describes how she joins in with children's play and encourages them to learn, for example by doing drawing with them, reading stories, or putting on music and dancing together. An adequate range of toys and play materials are available and the childminder intends to increase and extend these according to the needs of any children she cares for. The childminder has not yet developed an understanding of the Birth to 3 matters framework.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Evidence suggests that the childminder would welcome all children and value them as individuals. For instance, systems are in place to obtain information about children before they start, and the childminder is aware of the need to plan activities so that all children are included. The childminder encourages children to have a positive attitude towards the wider community by acting as a good role model and also by taking them on outings in the local area. The childminder describes appropriate strategies that she would use to manage children's behaviour and states that these would be agreed in conjunction with children's parents, to make sure their experiences are consistent with home. From discussion the childminder shows that she recognises the importance of working closely with parents. For instance, she states that she welcomes parents into her home for a chat every day to exchange information, and is sensitive to the needs of working parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder organises the home to meet children's needs. For instance, toys and play materials are stored where they can easily be accessed by children and there is sufficient clear space for them to play. She demonstrates through discussion that she understands the records and documentation required to promote the health, safety and wellbeing of minded children, and she has appropriate record books and forms available to complete when she is caring for children. The childminder has completed required childminding training and shows a commitment to further developing her skills and knowledge by making good use of local training opportunities. Overall, the evidence suggests that the needs of all children would be met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection an action was set for the childminder to devise and practice an emergency escape plan. She has now developed a written plan and is aware of the need to practice this as soon as she starts to care for any children. This has improved fire safety precautions.

The childminder was also asked to ensure written agreements with parents are kept, and to keep all records and consents readily available for inspection at all times. The childminder is not currently caring for any children, but she now has systems in place to keep all required records when needed. This will ensure legal requirements are met and agreements made between the childminder and parents are clear.

In addition, the childminder has made sure that some resources are available that reflect positive images of culture, gender and disability, in order to help children develop a positive view of diversity. This is, however, an area for on-going development.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action 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

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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):

- develop the range of toys and play materials available, including resources that reflect positive images of diversity
- develop a knowledge and understanding of 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 *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