



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY103253
Inspection date	13 June 2006
Inspector	Moreen Johnson
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 2001. She lives with her husband and three children aged 14, 11 and eight years old, in Highbury in the London borough of Islington. The areas of the childminder's home used for childminding are the living room and dining room. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is available to collect children from the local schools and attends local drop in groups on a regular basis

There are currently four children under eight years 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 good.

Children are well protected from infection by the childminder who has effective hygiene procedures. Effective accident and medication procedures are also in place. Children will be appropriately treated in the event of an emergency because the childminder is qualified in first aid and is aware of how to administer first aid.

Children are developing a good understanding about personal hygiene because the childminder encourages them to wash their hands and wipe their nose and explains the harmful effects of germs. The childminder maintains a good standard of hygiene in her home.

Children benefit from a healthy diet because the childminder promotes healthy eating well. Children are offered a variety of nutritious meals and snacks. Children are given drinks at regular intervals throughout the day. The childminder works in partnership with parents, takes the children's individual needs into account and respects parents' wishes relating to special needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised home in which a wide range of resources are easily accessible to them. Children have ample space available to allow them to move about confidently and independently. Children are not able to rest comfortably because the childminder does not provide younger children with suitable sleeping facilities.

Children's safety is promoted well. The childminder has a good understanding of health and safety issues and uses the relevant safety equipment to ensure that children are not placed at risk. Children are encouraged to develop a good understanding of fire safety and they have regular opportunities to practise emergency evacuation procedures.

Children are protected from harm because the childminder has a good understanding of how to put child protection procedures into practice by following the correct procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are well settled and have good relationships with the childminder. They have good opportunities to socialise with other children and adults by attending local groups. Children benefit from a stimulating environment. The childminder uses her good knowledge and understanding of child development to plan activities well and in accordance with children's individual needs. Children are supported well by the childminder to count in a meaningful way, to recognise colours and to play with an interesting variety of toys. There are good systems in place to record children's development. The childminder keeps profile books on children and monitors their progress.

Children's confidence and self esteem is promoted well by the childminder who values children's contributions and praises them for their achievements. Children are encouraged to be independent and they freely choose activities.

Children are encouraged to develop their creative and imaginative skills by engaging in lots of arts and crafts activities. They also have good opportunities to role play, dress up and have pretend picnics in the garden.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are valued and respected and their individual needs are met well. Children have good opportunities to learn about other cultures, because the childminder celebrates a variety of festivals. The childminder has actively developed her understanding of different community groups. Children have access to a satisfactory range of resources that portray positive images and have opportunities to socialise with children from other backgrounds.

Children are developing a good understanding of appropriate behaviour and learn to distinguish between right and wrong. The childminder focuses on children's positive behaviour and uses an effective range of suitable methods by which to manage inappropriate behaviour.

Partnership with parents and carers is good. Children benefit from effective relationships between the childminder and their parents. There are good procedures in place to share information with parents about their child's progress. The childminder has a good complaints procedure in place which meets with current requirements.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised home which is safe and secure. Children make good progress in all areas of their development and are supported well by the childminder. All policies and procedures are in place. However, the childminder has not obtained written parental consent to seek emergency medical treatment. Children have continuity of care, as a result of the good lines of communication between the childminder and parents in sharing information and records. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the childminder has updated her knowledge of a range of community festivals and religions and has developed her resources to reflect diversity, which means that children are developing a positive attitude about people from other cultures.

Complaints since the last inspection

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

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):

- ensure that written consent is obtained from parents to seek emergency medical treatment for children
- provide children with suitable sleeping facilities

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