



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	162113
<b>Inspection date</b>	14 July 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Josephine Rayner

<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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 2001. She lives with her husband and three children aged 13, 11 and seven years, in Wendover, Buckinghamshire. The whole of the ground floor of the childminders home is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five years and 11 school age children, all part time.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is outstanding.

Children benefit from an excellent range of physical activities that include the use of the garden, regular visits to the local park and local attractions; this contributes to their good health and helps them develop increasing control of their bodies, for example using large adventure play equipment.

Children's health benefits from the childminder's excellent procedures for hygiene and care. She ensures children wash their hands before eating, after using the toilet and after outside play. The childminder provides paper towels. Nappy changing routines follow good practice. The childminder ensures nappy changing resources are to hand, she wears disposable gloves and children have individual changing mats. As a result, children are protected from harmful germs and cross infection.

Children's health is safeguarded by the very effective procedures for the management of accidents. The childminder makes sure her first aid box is easily accessible in her home and takes first aid resources on outings. She holds a current first aid certificate so that she is confident to manage injuries to children.

Children develop very good eating habits. Meals for children are home cooked, varied and healthy. Food provided by parents is stored appropriately. This minimises the risk to children getting food poisoning. Children can access drinks at all times, this ensures they do not become thirsty.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

The childminder minimises the risks of children having an accident through the effective use of safety equipment and close supervision. However, in the lounge there are trailing flexes, which are a trip hazard for children.

Children can safely access a good range of appropriate toys and equipment. These resources are of good quality, properly maintained and clean. Toys that are inappropriate for younger children are stored out of reach. As a result, children use toys and equipment that are safe and suitable for their stage of development.

Children benefit from the childminder's secure understanding of child protection procedures and her responsibility to keep them safe. She has a clear policy and up-to-date reference materials to support her practice. This knowledge helps her to ensure the safety and welfare of all children in her care effectively.

## **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children experience a good range of age-appropriate activities that support their development and learning. Children thrive through the childminder's knowledge of their likes and dislikes, as a result, they are happy, motivated and eagerly take part in activities. Children learn to become independent, are confident, and gain self-esteem through the childminder's constant praise and encouragement. Children develop affectionate relationships with the childminder who is very involved in their play and interacts well with them.

Children enjoy completing jigsaws and joining in games that encourage imagination and role-play. During activities, the childminder supports children's learning of number and colour recognition; she does this by counting objects such as the number of carriages in the train set, and names the colours of objects on the jigsaws.

The childminder uses various rooms within her home for different activities, one room is dedicated for noisy play, and here the children can play on the Karaoke machine or play the electric organ without disturbing the children who wish to partake in quieter activities, such as reading books or playing board games.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children have access to a good range of resources that promote positive images of the wider world, such as puzzles, books, small figures depicting other cultures and disabilities. The childminder has a clear understanding of how to care for children with special needs, although none currently attend.

Children thrive from the childminder's awareness of their needs. The childminder has effective strategies in place to ensure she knows their individual needs and daily routines. She ensures information is readily available; health and care records are recorded comprehensively; in addition, parents and childminder share information on a daily basis, either in writing or verbally. This ensures that parents are kept well informed of their child's care and the children's welfare is protected.

The childminder uses praise and encouragement to manage children's behaviour; as a result, children behave well and respond to requests to tidy away toys and to use equipment appropriately.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from the attention given to providing a child-centred service. They enjoy the good range of age-appropriate toys and resources many of which they can access freely. The activities are appropriate for the children's age and stage of development. As a result, children are busy, well occupied and learning.

Children's care is enhanced by the thought given to the clear written policies, which the childminder shares with parents. As a result, parents are fully informed of all the childminder's procedures to promote the welfare and care of their children.

The childminder has good procedures for sharing information with parents about their children's day-to-day care, behaviour, and any other relevant issues. Therefore, parents are well informed about what happens to their child during each day. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children she provides care for.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the childminder was asked to complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children and request written permission from parents for seeking medical advice or treatment and to ensure that a system was in place to record children's accurate times of arrival and collection. She was also asked to provide an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

The childminder has successfully completed a recognised first aid course and parental consents have been obtained to seek emergency medical advice and treatment. She keeps a daily register, which records children's times of arrival and collection. Her activities and resources now reflect anti-discriminatory practice and promote equal opportunities. Therefore, children's good health is protected and their understanding of the wider world has been enhanced.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since 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 the trailing flexes in the lounge are inaccessible to children.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)