



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	140305
Inspection date	19 July 2006
Inspector	Jennifer Liverpool

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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1998. She lives with her husband and two children aged 12 and six years in the South Tottenham area within the London borough of Haringey. The living room and two bedrooms are used for childminding.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time and is currently minding two children aged under five years all day and an over five year old for before and after school. The childminder takes and collects children from local schools.

There are no children present at the time of the inspection.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

From discussion the childminder indicates that there are generally good procedures and routines to ensure children are healthy and cared for appropriately. She explained that children do not attend when they are infectious or if members of the household are not well. The childminder talked about how she encourages children to learn about personal hygiene such as hand washing; carefully disposing of soiled materials after nappy changing and incorporating cleaning tasks into the daily routine. All of which helps minimise the spread of infection. There are appropriate systems in place for recording accidents and medication administered to children. Despite there being a fully stocked first aid box in the event that children sustain minor injuries, the childminder's first aid certificate is currently invalid and therefore her knowledge is not updated to ensure children receive appropriate care.

The childminder verbally demonstrates a secure knowledge and understanding of healthy eating, and the need for children to have drinking water available to them at all times. She talks about how she encourages children to have access to physical activities as they sometimes walk to and from school; play ball games and occasionally visit the local parks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has taken reasonable steps to ensure that risks inside of her home have been minimised in order that children can work and play in safer surroundings. She explains how she restricts children's access to the kitchen, and mix hot and cold water so that children do not scald themselves when washing their hands. Children benefit from safety measures such as stair gates, fire safety equipment and child proof locks on windows.

There is an adequate range of toys that are of good quality and appropriate for the age and stage of children's development. Toys are organised in a manner which enable children to have easy and safe access. Although there is an appropriate range of equipment for children's comfort and safety when indoors, there is a limited amount of safety equipment for when transporting children in a car. The childminder has some knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. However, she is not fully aware of the procedures to follow if she had concerns about a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder verbally demonstrates how she organises and makes good use of time to cater for children's individual needs; provide opportunities for children to have a balance of rest, quiet and active play throughout the day and support their development and learning needs. She talks about encouraging children to develop creative skills through giving them opportunities to draw, help younger children explore sound through the use of musical toys and supporting older children with their homework. The childminder explains how she helps children to become

familiar with their local environment by taking them out on occasional trips to the park and library. From discussion the childminder demonstrates a basic knowledge and understanding of learning and play opportunities particularly for children aged under three years.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a basic knowledge and understanding of equality and ways to help children become aware of their own culture and accept differences. She explains that children are cared for through the information obtained from parents prior to the start of childminding arrangements. This is to ensure that children's individual needs are met. The childminder talks about recognising children's different stage of development and abilities, and being supportive.

The childminder shows a sound knowledge of behaviour management, giving generally good examples of how she would approach a variety of situations and strategies to promote positive behaviour. The childminder explains that she is developing good working relationships with parents through sharing expectations and exchanging information about their child's general well-being on a day to day basis. However, parents are not informed about the procedures to follow if they wish to make a complaint. Appropriate consents have been obtained from parents for the health and safety of their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a sound knowledge and understanding of the National Standards, which she interprets to a satisfactory level in her written procedures and practices. The childminder demonstrates how she uses her time and space well allowing children opportunity for rest, quiet and active play. Evidence suggests that the need of all children are met.

All mandatory records for the welfare and safe management of children are in place; however the daily record of attendance is not well maintained. Children's personal records are kept in a confidential manner. The certificate of registration is held in a folder and is therefore not displayed during childminding hours. There are contingency arrangements in place for in the event of an emergency, and the childminder explains how she protects children from adults who have not been vetted.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was required to implement a policy and procedure for working with sick children. It was recommended that she provide a suitable range of activities for children and include a sufficient range of resources that reflect positive images of race, gender and disability; obtain parents written consents for taking children out and using public transport and develop knowledge and understanding of behaviour management.

There are appropriate systems in place to ensure sick children are cared for appropriately and minimise the risk of cross infection. The childminder has increased the provision of toys for

children. They now have opportunities to explore sound, express their own ideas through drawing, look at a sufficient range of books and act out real life experiences from a reasonable range of role-play equipment. However, the provision for anti-discriminatory toys is limited. The childminder obtains parents written permission for outings and the use of public transport, which ensures appropriate care and attention is given to children when they go out on trips.

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 satisfactory. 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 further own knowledge and understanding of first aid for infants and young children
- provide a sufficient quantity of equipment for transporting children in own car. Develop further the range of anti-discriminatory resources. Develop own knowledge of child protection procedures
- ensure parent are made aware of procedures to follow should they wish to make a complaint
- maintain the daily written attendance documentation. Prominently display certificate of registration.

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