



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY320483
Inspection date	13 June 2006
Inspector	Barbara Law

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 has been registered since 2005. She has completed an introduction to childminding practice course. She runs her business from her home which she shares with her two children. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding activities. Bathroom and toilet facilities are upstairs. There is a secure back garden available for outdoor play. As part of her service she uses local amenities, such as the parent and toddler group, recreational parks and regular walks in the area. The registration is for three children. Currently, there is one child on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and comfortable environment. They are beginning to understand the importance of good hygiene through regularly reinforced routines, such as washing their hands after going to the toilet and before and after meals. A sick child and exclusion policy is in place which helps to protect children from cross infection. Children's health and well-being is safeguarded in an emergency situation through prior written consent from parents being sought.

Children are suitably nourished and are provided with frequent drinks. They are offered a choice of snacks and meals which include fresh fruit and vegetables, pasta, bread sticks and crackers. Children take part in beneficial physical activity outdoors. For example, they make good use of the garden to play football, to run around and to jump off the low step and regularly visit the park so they can run, use the slide and the swings and refine their physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe, secure and welcoming home. There is plenty of room for all children and the separated lounge/dining area allows older and younger children to successfully pursue different interests and activities. They use suitable and safe equipment which is all clean and well maintained. Children are encouraged to make independent choices about their play through toys, games and equipment, such as musical and construction toys being presented at low level.

Children play safely in the securely gated garden. Children are kept safe when out walking because the childminder reinforces responsible road safety behaviour, such as always using designated crossings and reminding children to stop, look and listen. Children are protected because the childminder has a sufficient understanding of appropriate child protection procedures which she will put into practice if necessary.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and settled with the childminder. They are given lots of individual attention and are stimulated by eye contact, cuddles and questions which encourages their development and language skills. Children's development is fostered by the childminder's good knowledge of children's individual needs and stages of development.

Children are able to select their toys from a range of age appropriate equipment provided to develop their play skills. They interact happily with the childminder and cooperate well in their play. They have opportunities to experience a range of

activities, such as Lego building, musical toys, football, singing and story telling, creative and imaginative play.

Children are valued. The childminder listens to what they are saying and responds positively to them at all times. Children demonstrate their confidence as they freely approach the childminder, making requests for a snack, a drink or to play outside. Children feel good about themselves when the childminder praises them for being so good and a pleasure to look after. She talks kindly to children and responds quickly to their requests for assistance and support.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well behaved. Children feel valued as individuals and develop a sense of belonging through the childminder offering praise and encouragement of their social skills and good manners. Children are warmly welcomed into the home and treated with respect and regard.

The childminder has some knowledge of equal opportunities. Children are beginning to learn about wider society as they access some resources which reflect positive images of society. This helps to promote their understanding of diversity whilst increasing their self-esteem and respect for others.

Children benefit from a positive partnership between the childminder and their parents. Continuity of care and consistency for children is ensured by informal daily feedback.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are well cared for. Their development is enhanced by the individual support they receive and the suitable range of activities provided in an organised, homely environment. Children are able to contribute to their care by making decisions about their play.

The childminder is suitably vetted and has completed all mandatory training which ensures children are well protected and cared for.

Most documentation is in order and stored confidentially, however, the daily register of children's attendance is not in place. This has implications for the safety and well-being of the minded children. However, they are protected from harm by the childminders vigilance and supervision.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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.

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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):

- ensure there is a system for registering children on a daily basis showing hours of attendance.

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