



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY289760
Inspection date	16 May 2005
Inspector	Joanne Lindsey Caswell

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 2004. She lives with her husband and their pre-school aged child in a residential area of Hookwood, near Horley, Surrey. The home is within walking distance of the local shops, pre-school and park. The childminder is willing to collect children from local schools.

The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding. This consists of a play room, living room, dining room and ground floor bathroom. Sleep facilities are provided on the ground floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The family have a dog.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding one child on a part time basis.

The childminder holds a National Nursery Examination Board (NNEB) qualification and is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy regular physical play activities, such as playing in the garden, walking to the park and going to the soft play centre. They develop their physical skills and co-ordination by using resources such as tricycles and other wheeled toys. Children push dolls prams competently and safely negotiate obstacles. The well-planned daily routine ensures children receive plenty of fresh air and exercise, as they participate in outside activities.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean and well-maintained home, providing them with a safe and hygienic environment. The childminder clearly explains to children why they must wash their hands after toileting, enabling children to begin to recognise the importance of personal hygiene. Children understand why they must not touch the food and water bowls belonging to the animals, as this may lead to infection and that they must wash their hands after feeding the rabbit.

Children's medical needs are met fully, as the childminder demonstrates a very clear understanding of all children's individual needs and she is able to recognise when children are not well, ensuring that children's welfare is addressed accordingly.

Children enjoy a healthy range of cooked meals and snacks. They have a home-cooked meal each day and are offered a nutritious range of snacks, such as fruit and raisins. The childminder is careful in selecting the variety of meals and snacks she provides for children, in order to address children's own personal likes and dislikes.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a spacious and well-organised environment, ensuring they are fully supervised at all times and can move around the premise freely. The childminder regularly carries out risk assessments on the premises and resources, to ensure that children always have access to high quality equipment and play materials and all necessary precautions are taken to prevent children from harm or injury.

Children are able to access their own toys and play materials independently and choose from a good range of high quality, age-appropriate resources. As part of the daily routine, children are encouraged to help to tidy away their toys, for example, before they have a nap. This encourages children to develop skills in independence

and take responsibility. Children are closely monitored whilst they are sleeping and their own individual sleep patterns are respected.

Children are protected well as the childminder has a clear understanding of child protection issues, enabling her to follow the relevant procedures, should she ever have any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children follow a stimulating and consistent daily timetable of activities. They have numerous opportunities to socialise with other children and enjoy regular visits and outings, such as to the local park and soft play centre. Children show kindness and respect for one another. They offer each other snacks and share books together at story time. Children have access to play materials which offer a range of play opportunities, such as role play resources, dressing up clothes, small world play and art and craft materials. Children also benefit from provision for outside play in the childminder's large garden with a variety of outdoor toys.

Children approach the childminder happily and receive plenty of physical affection and cuddles, enabling them to feel settled and secure. Children develop good communication skills as they readily engage in conversation with the childminder and she uses effective, open-ended questioning to extend their vocabulary. As a result, children are able to communicate their needs effectively and clearly.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are respected as individuals and are treated fairly. A range of play materials reflects diversity within society, as children are introduced to images of children and families from the wider world, enabling children to develop positive attitudes towards diversity. The childminder is committed to meeting all children's needs and ensures she obtains sufficient information to cater for each child's individual likes and dislikes.

Children benefit from the strong relationships the childminder builds with parents. Information regarding children's achievements and personal needs is exchanged on a daily basis, ensuring the childminder is fully aware of each child's changing needs, in order to meet them accordingly.

Children behave very well. They clearly understand the childminder's expectations and respond positively to her as she offers them plenty of praise, explanation and encouragement. For example, children are well-prepared for morning nap time, as the childminder pre-warns the children as part of the familiar routine. Children are encouraged to share and co-operate with one another, such as sharing the toys and negotiating in their play.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the well-organised daily routine, which is planned around their individual needs. Each day sufficient time is offered for children to socialise freely with other children and enjoy visits and outings. The routine is consistent, enabling activities to be planned around each child's sleep and meal times. Children benefit from the warm, loving and homely atmosphere provided. The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of regulations and through her experience as a professional childcare practitioner, ensures children are protected at all times. Regulatory documentation is maintained, although written parental consent is lacking in some areas. The organisation of the premises and the effective storage arrangements for all play materials, enables children to be fully supervised at all times, whilst still allowing children to develop their own independence and take responsibility for tidying away toys after use. As a result of this, the needs of the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 written parental consent is obtained for any emergency treatment and all travel and outings

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:
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