



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	140107
Inspection date	03 July 2006
Inspector	Lisa-Marie Jones
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 two grown up children in Streatham SW16. They live in a first floor maisonette situated on a residential estate overlooking Streatham Common. The premises comprise three bedrooms and bathroom on the first floor and living room, kitchen and bathroom on the ground floor. Children have access to the living room and bathroom. There is a communal outdoor play area.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently five minding children, all of whom attend on a part-time basis. The childminder attends local carer and toddler groups on a regular basis. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are protected from the risk of cross infection, as the childminder follows effective hygiene practices and ensures that her home is clean and tidy at all times. Children's health is protected, because the childminder keeps accurate records and follows effective procedures if children are unwell.

Children enjoy taking part in an range of physical activities outside the home, which positively contributes to their good health and encourages them to develop a healthy lifestyle. Children benefit from having a balance of a healthy diet, which meets their dietary needs, and exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The premises are safe and secure for their purpose and children have ample space to play, in a welcoming and appropriate location. Children are protected from risk of accidental injury, which means they can move freely and safely around the setting, enabling their overall independence. This is because the childminder ensures that effective risk assessments are routinely done. Children know how to keep themselves safe, through a range of activities. These include general health and safety aspects, such as road safety. Children are kept safe during outings, as the childminder follows effective procedures and uses appropriate, maintained equipment.

Children can choose from a range of play materials, which are in good condition. Furniture, equipment and toys are appropriate for their purpose. Child sized furniture and easy access to toys, enable children to feel welcome and secure.

Children's welfare is protected, because the childminder has an understanding of her role within child protection. Policies and procedures ensure that children's overall well-being is paramount, however, the childminder does not have local information and contact numbers.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children develop relationships with the childminder, who is responsive to their individual needs and ensures that their welfare is promoted. She knows the children well and devotes her time to them, to enhance their sense of well-being and emotional stability.

Children take part in activities and experiences, which support their development in most areas. Children are enthusiastic when playing and enjoy activities that are available to them.

Young children's needs are mostly met, as the childminder has knowledge and understanding of their developmental needs. She does not, however, have an understanding of the Birth to Three Matters framework, and activities are not planned according to their needs, and records

of their development and progress are not kept. Children become competent communicators, because the childminder uses supportive and enthusiastic interaction at all levels, this enables children to develop confidence and make progress in their social learning and with their communication.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children respond to the childminder's consistent, calm approach. As a result, children's behaviour is good. The childminder enforces positive strategies to manage behaviour; these are appropriate to the age and understanding of all children. Children receive meaningful praise, which encourages their confidence and self-esteem.

All children are included and are encouraged to have a positive view of the wider community. The childminder endeavours to ensure that all children's individual needs are met. Once an effective planning system is in place children will have more opportunity to learn about the world around them. The childminder is in the process of replenishing toys and resources that positively reflect the wider community to enhance children's understanding and appreciation of difference.

The childminder is very aware that some children have specific needs. She is proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken, when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting, in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

Children benefit from a successful and effective professional relationship between their carers. Purposeful two-way sharing of information ensures consistent care, both at home and in the childminding setting.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from having a childminder, who is active in improving her care for children. Children are happy in a setting that is organised, with routines that allow time for quiet and active play. They receive adequate adult support, to help them feel secure and confident, and to allow them to make progress in their overall development.

Policies and procedures guide and enhance the childminder's daily practice. However, improvements need to be made to the recording of children's development under three years of age and the use of these, to aid planning for their individual needs. Overall, the high quality of the provision means that the childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection four actions were set:

Take positive steps to promote children's safety by ensuring public liability insurance is in place, trailing flexes are safe and emergency evacuation plans are devised and practised. Public liability insurance is now in place in place. Electricity flexes have been shortened and extension leads have been taken away. Fire evacuation plans are practised with the children and hand written signs put up on walls show children where to go and the smoke alarm is now working. Therefore the childminder has taken positive steps to ensure children's safety within the setting.

Increase knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and obtain contact numbers of the local Social Services Department. The childminder has taken part in child protection training and has the national government information, however, she still does not have the local information and contact numbers, should she need to make enquiries regarding a child in her care.

Complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children. The childminder was able to give evidence that she is booked on the next available training session in July 2006.

Ensure that childminder's daughter completes appropriate background check forms. CRB forms were completed for her daughter during the inspection.

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):

- obtain contact numbers for the local Social Services Department
- increase knowledge and understanding of birth to three matters framework

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