



Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY296838 |
| Inspection date | 09 November 2006 |
| Inspector | Laura Brewer |
| 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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since January 2005. She lives with her two children ages six and three years. The property is a house, situated in Penge within the London Borough of Bromley. The home is accessible to local parks, schools and transport services.

The downstairs is mainly used for childminding purposes, which includes toilet facilities. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play opportunities. The family have one pet rabbit, which is kept in the garden.

The childminder is first aid qualified and has completed relevant pre-registration training. She is currently registered to care for four children under eight years at any one time. At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how to promote children's good health. She describes how children learn about the importance of good hygiene practices such as washing their hands after using the toilet, to reduce the risk of cross-contamination. Through discussion, the childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of providing healthy and nutritious meals and snacks to ensure children's dietary needs are met throughout the day. The childminder talks about ensuring children take part in a range of activities that contribute to their physical development. For example, frequently visiting local parks for rigorous play and regularly going out on walks to benefit from the fresh air.

The childminder has a current first aid certificate and understands the correct procedures to be followed for recording accidents, this ensures children's welfare is safeguarded. The childminder demonstrates a commitment to supporting children's emotional well-being by building secure relationships and recording relevant information about the child's individual needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder has organised space to meet children's needs and has created a bright and welcoming environment for them to play. Most of the required safety precautions are in place, although the fire blanket has not been fitted according to the manufacturers instructions which compromises children's safety. Children can play safely because they have access to a range of safe and suitable play materials that are appropriate for their age and stage of development.

The childminder describes how she helps children to take responsibility for their own safety. For example, through discussions about risks outdoors and road safety awareness. The childminder shows a sound knowledge of procedures to follow if she had a concern about the welfare of a child and has attended relevant training in this area to ensure she is up to date with the current guidance.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Through discussion, the childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She describes how the organisation of the routine provides children with times to be active and quiet with opportunities to play indoors or outdoors. Local resources such as toddler groups and parks are used to increase learning opportunities and stimulate children's interest in the local environment.

Observation of resources and equipment suggests they are organised and used well. The provision of which, means children have access to stimulating activities and are motivated to learn. The childminder talks about offering a range of activities that offer appropriate levels

of challenge, suitable to children's ages and stages of development. For example, the childminder involves herself with children's play, encouraging language development and promoting children's creative abilities during activities such as painting, drawing and modelling with recyclable materials.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Evidence suggests that children are valued and their individual needs are met because the childminder spends time getting to know them well. The childminder was able to demonstrate how she works closely with parents to identify the children's likes and dislikes, routine and individual needs. This approach enables children to settle well and experience consistent care. The childminder has developed a portfolio which contains many policies to support her work and provides parents with clear information about the service provided.

The childminder has a positive approach regarding behaviour management issues. She demonstrates a commitment to using praise and encouragement to set clear boundaries and to build children's self-esteem. The childminder has a clear understanding of promoting equality within the setting. Children have access to the full range of activities offered and the celebration of a festivals is incorporated into the activity planning which encourages children to learn positively about diversity. The childminder has a positive approach towards working with children with learning difficulties and has a satisfactory awareness of relevant issues to promote children's welfare and development.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Evidence suggests that the childminder is organised and has ensured all documentation is up to date, available for inspection and stored safely. She has effective procedures for passing on any information to parents through daily communication. The childminder is keen to update her training to enhance her professional development. She has attended additional short training courses to provide a positive impact on the overall learning, safety and wellbeing of the children.

Policies and procedures contribute effectively to the safe running of the setting, promoting the care and welfare of children. Overall, evidence suggests that the childminder would meet the needs of the range of the children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

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 fire blanket in the kitchen is fitted according to the manufacturers instructions.

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