



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY297282
<b>Inspection date</b>	15 November 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Sylvia Dindar

<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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 November 2004. She is registered to care for four children under eight years. At the time of inspection there were two children on roll. The childminder lives with her husband and their children who are of school age. They live in a house in the Hythe area of the New Forest in Hampshire. The childminder is able to walk to the local shops, school and parks.

The whole of the house is available for childminding but the childminder prefers to use the ground floor. There is a fully enclosed garden which is available for outside play.

The childminder attends the local carer and toddler group and other groups on regular basis. She has a qualification in first aid.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a home that is clean warm and light where they learn the importance of good hygiene and personal care. For example, they are encouraged to wash their hands before eating food and after toileting.

Children begin to understand the importance of a healthy diet as the childminder offers children fresh fruit and cereal bars as snacks. Children are offered drinks on a regular basis this includes water, milk or juice. The childminder discusses with the parent's all aspects of the children's diet and children's individual dietary needs are met.

Children have regular daily exercise as the childminder parks the car a distance from the school so children get opportunities to walk and get fresh air. They have opportunities to play in the garden and visit local parks. They learn how exercise affects their bodies.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

The child minder supervises children well. Children are kept safe on outings as they learn about the safe places to cross the road and to be aware of traffic. They are cared for in a home that is spacious and secure, where most of the hazards are identified and safety features are in place. However, not all medication is kept out of reach of children.

The childminder has a well planned emergency evacuation procedure in place and this is practised with children so they become familiar with the routine. Smoke detectors are checked on a regular basis to ensure that they are in working order.

Children independently select activities from good quality toys and equipment. The childminder carefully monitors and supervises children to ensure that they are safe and suitable for the ages and stages of their development.

The childminder holds a current first aid certificate and has a secure knowledge of child protection. She plans activities to make children aware about their bodies and their right to feel comfortable and keep themselves safe. Children's welfare and is safeguarded and promoted

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are relaxed and happy at the childminder's. They are given time to watch television. This gives them time for rest and relaxation and makes a break between school and their leisure activities. Children are allowed to initiate their own play as they freely choose from a wide range of resources and activities on offer. These include board games books electronic toys and small world people. The childminder knows the children well. She knows they have their favourite toys and these are always made available. For instance, one child likes to play with small world people.

Children are supported well in their play and the childminder loosely plans activities they might enjoy. For example, a walk after school allows children time to pick up autumn leaves as well as providing physical exercise. The next evening the childminder asks children what they might want to do with them. When they are not sure, she offers them suggestions and provides additional resources such as paper, paints, tape and scissors, which allows children to be creative. They decide to do leaf prints and pictures. Children's language is developed as they are encouraged to talk about the shape and size of leaves and are asked to identify which trees they came from. They are encouraged to observe the differences in colour and texture and make comment. Children show curiosity as they explore the veins on the back of the leaves and learn about how trees take up water and grow, improving their knowledge of science and nature.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children have a good relationship with the childminder. she treats them with warmth and affection. Children are confident to approach the childminder as she takes time to listen to them and takes an interest in what they say and do. They are praised and encouraged, building on their self esteem.

The childminder uses meaningful resources and discussion about everyday events to increase children's knowledge of the wider world. Children are learning to think about others as they become involved in charitable events such as the 'Shoe Box Appeal' Through discussion and books they learn to acknowledge and accept the differences that make us all unique.

All children are valued and respected as individuals. Children learn how to cope with such things as bullying as the childminder talks to children about how it feels to be the victim and the bully. She suggests ways in which they themselves may seek help, or support another child. Children behave well because they understand the rules that give them their boundaries. Such as sharing and taking turns and being respectful of other peoples' possessions and their property.

Children's individual needs are met well as they follow their daily routine. The childminder develops a good relationship with parents. She seeks their views about such things as diet and behaviour. She gives daily verbal feedback to parents to ensure that they are kept informed of their child's development.

The childminder is not currently caring for children with special needs. She knows that all children develop at different rates and should feel valued and included. She understands that this can be done by working closely with parents and ensuring that activities and resources meet the needs of all children cared for.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The children are comfortable and relaxed in a home where they access a wide range of interesting activities. The childminder organises space, resources and time so that she meets the needs of the range of all the children who attend.

Children's care and welfare is further enhanced by effective record keeping systems. The childminder has a good range of well thought out policies that underpin the childminder's good practice. These are discussed and shared with parents so they know what they can expect from the childminder. This allows for continuity of care and equality of opportunity for all families.

The childminder is trained and experienced in her role as day care provider. She continues to develop her knowledge and skills as she attends regular training. Parents are requested to evaluate and make comment on the service she offers. This ensures that children are well cared.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At registration the childminder was asked to address a number of safety issues. She has now addressed these and is able to confirm that the glass in the video cabinet is safe; Cleaning materials are kept in locked cupboards; the back gate is secured with a padlock when children play in the garden. Minimising the risk of accidents and keeping children safe.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since last inspection there are no complaints to report.

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.
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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):

- all medication kept out of reach of children.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)