



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY229953
Inspection date	01 December 2006
Inspector	Jasvinder Kaur
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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2002. She lives with her three children aged 13, 10 and seven years. The family lives in Tipton, West Midlands. The whole ground floor and the first floor bathroom of the childminder's house are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding one child over five during school holidays and before and after school. The childminder takes children to, and collects them from, the local school. The family has a pet dog and rabbit.

The childminder is a member of National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are encouraged to learn about the importance of personal hygiene through daily routines. They wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. All children are provided with separate towels. They are protected from the spread of infection because there is a procedure in place to exclude children with infectious illnesses. The childminder is aware of the necessity of keeping a record of medicines and accidents to children. However, she has not yet requested written parental consent for seeking emergency medical treatment or advice. This means it is not certain that children will receive appropriate care in an emergency.

Children's dietary requirements are discussed with parents, and their wishes are respected. They benefit from healthy and nutritious meals which cater for their individual needs. They enjoy a relaxed atmosphere at mealtimes. A selection of drinks is readily accessible for children at all times.

Children have access to a wide range of energetic physical activities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They use a variety of indoor and outdoor toys and equipment. They enjoy playing in the garden and at their local facilities. They walk to their local library and school, and travel by public transport during school holidays. This ensures that children get fresh air and keep physically fit. There are suitable arrangements for rest and sleep.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children feel secure as the childminder provides a welcoming environment. They are encouraged to learn about possible hazards and to keep themselves safe both indoors and on outings. Safety issues are highlighted in the house rules. The satisfactory organisation of toys and equipment enables children to move around safely in the house and garden. Children are supervised at all times. They develop an awareness of safety measures through emergency evacuation drills on a regular basis. This means children are generally safe.

Children benefit from suitable and secure premises where they have adequate space to move round safely. They have easy access to a wide range of toys and equipment which enables them to develop their learning skills. The resources are stimulating and well-organised to provide free choice to encourage children's independence.

The children are protected because of the childminder's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and procedures. She has attended the relevant training and is able to put appropriate procedures into practice if necessary.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are involved in a broad range of activities which promotes their welfare. They show interest and happily take part in a wide range of good quality activities and play opportunities. They are confident in the setting and positively interact with the childminder and peers. To develop their imagination and skills they take part in a variety of learning experiences. For example children use the mouse on the computer to draw their own pictures and then print them and colour them in. They take part in various forms of role play such as pretending to sell food or selecting and playing a character from a Digital Video Disc (DVD) story. They take part in different forms of music. They sing karaoke and dance to music.

Children play together cooperatively and harmoniously in a healthy environment. They develop their independence by selecting resources and activities of their choice and initiating their play. They have an 'art and craft corner' and a 'book corner' where they choose to draw and colour in or select any books to read to themselves. This helps children to enjoy and make progress in most areas of development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have a sense of belonging and they feel valued as the childminder respects their individuality. They are involved in planning of activities and tidying up toys. However, children develop limited awareness of the wider society and equality because the childminder lacks the resources which reflect diversity and anti-discriminatory practice. Although there are no children currently attending the setting who have special needs, the childminder is capable of providing care which would include them in the life of the setting through discussing their needs with parents.

Children are happy and well behaved. The childminder uses a positive and consistent approach to managing behaviour. Children are praised and rewarded for good behaviour and learn to play together, sharing and taking turns with toys and equipment. Behaviour management is discussed with parents and the childminder works in partnership with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. Information is shared with parents on a regular basis through verbal communication and well-documented policies. The children benefit from the childminder's positive and professional relationship with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The childminder has not renewed her first aid certificate since 2005. The potential impact of this is that in the event of an emergency the children's needs are not effectively met.

Children generally benefit from an organised and comfortable environment. The required adult: child ratios are maintained at all times to ensure sufficient support is provided for children. The childminder has suitable arrangements to protect children and has undertaken relevant vetting procedures. All records of children are maintained and kept securely to maintain

confidentiality. They are shared with parents to keep them informed about the service. This contributes to continuity in the children's care.

Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection, the childminder agreed to provide an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice and to maintain the attendance register accurately.

The childminder does now maintain the attendance register accurately and keeps it up-to-date. This means children's needs are met regarding this issue. However, she has still not provided the resources to reflect diversity and anti-discriminatory practices. Therefore children's needs in this respect are not fully met.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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