



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY296256
Inspection date	23 June 2005
Inspector	Karen Eunice Millerchip

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 has been registered since 2004. She lives with her two adult children in a house one mile from Coventry City Centre. There are shops, schools and local community resources close-by. The whole of the ground floor, upstairs bathroom and front right hand bedroom are used for minding. There is a garden suitable for outdoor play.

The childminder currently cares for four children under five years of age on both a full and part-time basis. She visits local community resources and is a member of the

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children stay healthy as the childminder takes suitable steps to prevent the spread of infection for example food preparation surfaces are cleaned before use and food is stored, prepared and served in an appropriate manner. Children are encouraged to learn about health and hygiene through regular daily routines for example hand washing prior to meals and after outdoor play and toileting. They are encouraged to be independent in their personal care for example using tissues, accessing toilet / potty training.

The children's needs with regards to accidents or illness are met appropriately and children are comforted and cared for until collected by a parent. However, although the childminder demonstrated a general understanding of First Aid, has appropriate records and procedures should a child become ill or have an accident; she does not hold a current First Aid certificate.

Children are offered a range of food in line with their dietary needs and specific likes or dislikes. A sample menu is offered to parents to ensure children have the opportunity to try a wide variety of foods and snacks. Drinks are freely available and younger children are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are welcomed into a warm and welcoming home where they are safe and secure. They can freely explore their surroundings and have access to a good range of toys and equipment that promotes their development and learning. Risks to children from broken or unsafe toys, furniture and equipment is minimised as the childminder carries out suitable visual checks on a daily basis. Within the home children can play safely in a well maintained environment where generally, possible hazards have been identified and addressed. However, the children can access uncovered plug sockets which present as a safety risk to them.

Children are kept safe when out and about as they are appropriately restrained when travelling in the car, directly supervised at all times and the childminder demonstrated a sound understanding of how to address possible risks at the park or when using local community resources. However, parents need to give consent for their child to travel in a vehicle.

The childminder demonstrates an adequate understanding of the signs and symptoms of possible child abuse and of the procedures to be followed to ensure that children in her care are kept safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in a friendly environment where they can experience a suitable range of age appropriate play opportunities for example crayoning, home corner, books, shape sorters and outdoor play. Children play happily on their own and alongside other children and are able to self select toys from low level boxes and shelves.

All children are supported by the childminder during their play and toys are changed during the day to keep children interested and occupied. Children go out to local shops where they are involved with choosing fruit and vegetables; they also visit other childminders which gives them opportunities to socialise in a secure environment.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's individual needs are met as they follow their normal daily routine as discussed with parents. They respond well to each other and when interacting with the childminder. The children are comfortable and secure in their surroundings and are developing confidence and independence for example they are encouraged to help when out shopping, able to access own drinks, encouraged to develop self-help skills.

Children's opportunities to learn about the wider community are restricted because toys, resources and play opportunities that promote positive images of different groups in society are limited.

Children behave well and are learning to share and take turns. They are kept occupied and interested and this helps limit unacceptable behaviour. Methods of behaviour management are discussed with parents and methods used are in line with the individual child's level of understanding and maturity. Praise is used to promote good behaviour and to support children's learning.

Children are supported in getting to know the childminder, her family and the environment through a gradual introduction. Parents are encouraged to share information on their child's individual needs to ensure the childminder can provide care in accordance with their wishes. Daily information sharing takes place about children's daily activities.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The childminder has started to develop the required documentation. Children's and parent's details are in place but several consent forms from parents have not been completed. All parents have not yet given written permission for emergency treatment

or advice to be sought for their child and this may result in a delay in children receiving prompt treatment for an accident. Parents have not given written permission for their child to be transported in a vehicle and as a result of this children may not be covered by the childminder's insurance in the event of an accident.

The childminder is aware of the adult:child ratios that should be adhered to at all times however, during certain periods in the week the childminder cares for one more child than her conditions of registration allow for. A daily register is not regularly maintained. Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of all children that attend.

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 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:

- Ensure that written parental permission to seek emergency medical treatment or advice is in place for all children.
- Ensure that written parental permission to transport children in a vehicle is in place.
- Ensure adult:child ratios in line with conditions of registration are maintained at all times.
- Maintain a daily record of the names of all children looked after on the premises and their times of arrival and departure.

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 *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk