



Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY289309 |
| Inspection date | 19 October 2006 |
| Inspector | Alison Large |
| 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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives with her partner and two children aged five and two in the Swanwick area of Southampton. All areas of the property are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time and is currently minding one child under five all day. The childminder drives to local schools to take and collect children. The family have no pets.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children become aware of the importance of good hygiene. The younger children have their hands cleaned with wipes before and after eating, and older children are able to wash their hands under running water after using the toilet and before meals and snacks. This promotes an awareness of good health. Children's health is well promoted by the childminder, for example, when responding to accidents, parents are kept informed through the detailed records. However, the childminder's medication records are not maintained as required.

Children begin to understand the benefits of healthy eating and are offered snacks which regularly include fruit. Drinks are offered throughout the day, including water. The childminder is aware of any allergies or special dietary requirements the children may have and parents provide meals that appeal to the children and meet their dietary needs. Children enjoy a varied range of outdoor activities, which contribute to their good health and physical development. The childminder provides a good range of outdoor interests for the children, including wheeled toys, swing, slide and visits to the park and other outings.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well cared for in a bright environment, resources are stored accessibly to allow children to move around safely. The developmental needs of the children are met by the range of equipment that is made available to them, which are clean, safe and well maintained. Children enjoy a safe and secure environment because the childminder is vigilant and ensures risks and hazards are minimised and children's safety is promoted. The childminder has a sound understanding of child protection issues and has all the required procedures and documentation in place to ensure the welfare of the children is safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled in the care of the childminder, she interacts well with them, offering encouragement and support during activities. Children build a good relationship with the childminder, good conversation flows freely between the childminder and the children, developing their communication and social skills effectively. Children enjoy their play and develop their independence by being able to access a wide range of resources. They are interested in a suitable range of developmentally appropriate indoor and outdoor activities and are able to choose between a variety of books, toys and games which appeal to them. The childminder recognises the value of play in a child's development and introduces a range of experiences, enabling children to play together as well as independently. The children relate well to each other and are able to socialise with other children through regular get-togethers at toddler groups and through a parent network.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children are valued and respected as individuals, the childminder takes each child's age and understanding into account, which ensures the children's self-esteem and confidence are promoted well. Children's individual needs are catered for through detailed discussions with parents and the childminder treats each child as an individual. Children behave well because they know exactly what is expected of them. The childminder manages behaviour effectively and calmly, ensuring clear boundaries are in place. Children benefit from the excellent links with home, information is shared in daily diaries, enabling parents to share the children's experiences whilst in the childminder's care. Children develop a positive view of the world around them through a range of resources and activities, which help them develop an understanding of others. The childminder is happy to welcome a child with special needs and would ensure they are able to participate fully.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. Children benefit from a well organised, safe and secure environment, where they are protected by sound procedures which are implemented effectively by the childminder. Children are fully occupied and engaged with many play opportunities during their day at the setting, as the childminder organises the daily routines and activities well. The childminder has a clear understanding of the requirements of her registration, keeping children protected. She has all the legally required documentation in place, to ensure children's health, safety and well-being is promoted effectively, records are stored confidentially and regularly reviewed.

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.

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 medication records are completed correctly

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