



Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY312438 |
| Inspection date | 28 November 2006 |
| Inspector | Hazel Stuart-Buddery |
| 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 2005. She lives with her husband and son in Staines. The whole of the ground floor is used for minding with sleeping facilities upstairs. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play. Shops, parks and pre-schools are all in walking distance. The childminder may care for a maximum of four children and currently has three children on the register.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children play in a clean and well maintained environment where they learn the importance of good personal hygiene. Children are encouraged to wash their hands after visiting the toilet

and before eating. Older children understand why they need to wash their hands and happily demonstrate how they wash their hands, with big smiles on their faces.

Parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. All documentation is accurately maintained. This means that children are cared for in accordance to parents' wishes. Children receive appropriate care if there is an accident because the childminder holds a current first aid certificate. Children enjoy healthy, nutritious meals and snacks mainly provided by the parents. They enthusiastically climb into their chairs for a mid-morning snack of cheese straws and juice.

Children have daily opportunities to develop their physical skills. They enjoy lots of fresh air when they walk to the park and along the river to feed the ducks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from playing in a well-organised home. This allows them to move around freely and safely. The childminder has identified and minimized most risks ensuring children play in secure surroundings. Children have easy and safe access to a good range of age appropriate resources that are rotated regularly throughout the day. Children learn the importance of keeping themselves safe. For example, the childminder carefully explains to the children why they should not stand while in the booster seat at the table. The children listen carefully and quickly sit down.

Children are well protected from the risk of fire. The childminder has a fire blanket and smoke alarms in place. She has a written fire procedure that she talks to the children about. The outdoor area is safe for children to enjoy a range of outdoor equipment that is safely maintained. Children's welfare is promoted; the childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and of the procedure to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive happily and separate from their parents easily. They settle quickly and are happy in the childminder's care. The children are constantly engaged in purposeful play. Some children like to open the book cupboard and choose their favourite books. They sit on the floor with the childminder and look at the animal books. Their language skills are promoted because the childminder names the animals and the sounds they make and encourages the children to copy. The childminder extends this activity and suggests that the children find the corresponding animals in the farm, they smile proudly as they hold up the sheep and get lots of praise. Children learn about colours, each week they focus on a different colour and are encouraged to bring objects from home of the same colour, these are displayed around the room to remind them throughout the day. Children enjoy colouring snakes and sticking them onto green paper. They confidently hold large wax crayons as they colour the body of the snake and very carefully spread the glue. They respond positively to the praise and encouragement they are given by

the childminder. The children are happy, relaxed and make good progress in their learning and development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with respect and given choices that help them feel good about themselves. The childminder has a good understanding of equal opportunities. Individual backgrounds are discussed at the initial interview and recorded on record forms. Children are encouraged to learn about and respect differences through good use of resources and discussions.

Children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder and communicate well with her. They begin to learn about right from wrong and sharing and taking turns because the childminder is consistent with her behaviour management and gives good explanations. For example, the childminder kneels down with the child and explains about sharing the books and allowing all the children to choose their own book. The children listen carefully and then allow other children to get the books out. The children display good levels of self-esteem and respond positively to the childminder's consistent offers of praise.

The childminder builds good relationships with parents. Children benefit from continuity of care as their care needs are discussed at the initial interview. The childminder provides parents with a comprehensive set of written policies and procedures. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress with a detailed written diary on a daily basis.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are happy in a child friendly and caring environment. They are relaxed, settled and benefit from a well-organised home. Children receive appropriate levels of support while being encouraged to develop their independence.

The childminder has a good understanding of the National Standards. She has attended training in behaviour management and risk assessment and has identified that she will benefit from training in Birth to three matters. She maintains her paperwork well and provides parents with written copies of all policies. She has all required documentation in place and further supporting documentation that promote good practice. The childminder meets the needs of the range of 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.

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 bottles of alcohol are made safe or inaccessible to children

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