



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY335318
Inspection date	07 November 2006
Inspector	Claire Jean Douglas

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 2006. She lives with her partner and three children aged eight,

six and four years old. The family live in a three bedroom house in a residential area of

Beckenham, in the London Borough of Bromley, close to local shops, schools and parks.

The whole of the house is used for childminding purposes and there is direct access to a secure garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years old

at any one time, and there is currently seven children on roll, all of whom attend on a part-time bases at varying times. 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 are learning about the importance of good hygiene practices when they are encouraged to wash their hands after playtime, before they eat and after visiting the bathroom which helps reduce the risk of cross-contamination.

The children benefit from fresh home cooked healthy meals that meet their nutritional needs. The childminder encourages children to develop healthy eating habits, for instance by offering a variety of fresh and dried fruits such as cranberries, kiwis, bananas and raisins for snacks.

Children take part in physical activities, such as walks to the park the school run, and climbing up and down the slide ladder in the garden all which contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

The children's health is well protected because the childminder has effective systems in place to keep records of any accidents children have and any medicines they need to be administered. The childminder has ensured that parents have given their written consents which means that parents' wishes regarding action to be taken in an emergency are clear.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, well maintained environment with facilities to meet their needs. Their risk of accidental injury is minimised because the childminder regularly risk assesses her home, toys and resources ensuring they are suitable for the age of children attending. For example, she makes sure children cannot access the stairs or any exposed electrical sockets. The childminder ensures children are aware of fire exits by practicing periodic evacuations. Children are encouraged to learn how to keep themselves safe when on outings, as the childminder reinforces road safety, asking the children if they can see left and right and when is it safe to cross? Children play with toys that are clean, in good condition and suitable for their age. This helps to ensure children play safely.

Children's welfare is generally well safeguarded because the childminder is familiar with possible signs of child abuse or neglect, and is aware of her responsibility to report any concerns. However, she does not have the current government guidance to refer to if she is worried about a child. This means relevant information would not be readily accessible to enable the childminder to act quickly if required.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are comfortable and feel at ease at the childminder's house. The childminder is attentive to their needs and responds to them warmly. She knows the children well and devotes her time to them to enhance their sense of well-being and emotional stability. For example, the children spent their time purposefully with the childminder who supervised and joined in with play

dough, card making and paint spinning throughout the afternoon. Supportive and enthusiastic interaction was given, enabling children to develop confidence and make progress in their social learning. Children benefit from a familiar daily routine for play, outings, meals and quiet times, this helps them feel secure and settle quickly.

Children take part in a range of activities that are suitable for their age, and also enjoy outings to the park, library or sports centre. Young children have their needs met because the childminder has a sound understanding of their developmental needs and has begun to use the Birth to three matters framework to inform her practice.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed into the setting and valued as individuals. The childminder has a positive and consistent approach to rules and boundaries which helps the children to behave well. Children begin to develop a positive view of the wider community when they use resources, such as play people in wheel chairs and books that reflect positive images of diversity. Celebrations are included, for example the children have recently enjoyed decorating woman wearing saris for Diwali.

Children benefit from successful working relationships between their carers. They talk to each other daily to exchange information. Parents can call the childminder at any time during the day. Children regularly take home art work they have completed at the childminders and the childminder takes photographs of the children playing, for the parents to keep. Regular, two-way sharing of information ensures good quality, consistent care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder keeps most of the records required to promote the health, safety and welfare of minded children. However, further knowledge and understanding of the regulations relating to the complaints log and procedures is required. The childminder has taken positive steps to ensure she keeps up to date with relevant training opportunities and is due to attend a Birth to three matters training course. The childminder records and shares children's progress with parents on a regular basis to ensure she effectively meets all children's needs.

Children benefit from being cared for in an environment where their needs are taken into account. For instance, the childminder keeps all art and craft activities in a cupboard in the kitchen so that the children can access it with ease, toys are stored at children's levels, with space for children to set out resources to play. This means they can make the most of the play and learning opportunities provided. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

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):

- improve knowledge and understanding of the regulations relating to Complaints procedures and update Complaints procedure information
- develop knowledge and resources for safeguarding children, by seeking and implementing the government guidelines 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused summary.

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