



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY219475
<b>Inspection date</b>	10 October 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Jane Plested
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since March 2022. She lives with her husband and two children aged eight and six, in a house in Bicester. The ground floor of the house is used for childminding with the exception of the dining room. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder works with a co-childminder. There are currently 11 children on roll of whom two are over eight years.

The childminder's home is within walking distance of schools, a nursery, a preschool, the medical centre and local shops. The family has two dogs which do not have contact with the children.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health benefits from the childminder's good hygiene practice. She ensures the premises are clean and wipes table surfaces for children's meal times. Children learn good personal hygiene through routines such as, using wipes to clean their hands before meals.

Children's well-being in the event of an accident is compromised because the childminder does not hold a current first aid certificate and as a result, her knowledge is not up-to-date. However, she does have plenty of appropriate first aid resources that are well organised in the home and some are taken on outings so that they are continually available to treat any child that has an accident.

Children's meals are an enjoyable experience as they sit together in a group in comfortable surroundings and they have access to colourful plates and cups. Snacks and main meals are appetising, freshly cooked and varied, thus effectively promoting children's growth and development. Baby's milk feeds are stored with good food hygiene in mind, to minimise the risk of contamination. Children are able to have drinks at any time and these are offered routinely so they do not become thirsty.

Children go out for walks daily, for example, they visit the park to feed the ducks or walk to their toddler group. Children also have regular access the garden that has a chunky climbing frame and slide. In poor weather, they can use trundle toys indoors so that they learn to negotiate vehicles within confined spaces and have great fun moving to music.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children benefit as the premises is a safe and well-maintained environment. Equipment is in place to ensure that accidents do not occur and children are secured into seats at meal times so they cannot fall out. Both indoor and outside toys and equipment for use by children are good quality and properly maintained. These resources are age appropriate for the children attending the setting.

Children remain safe as they rest because the childminder checks them and uses a baby monitor. She supervises children during their play closely to ensure they remain safe and she has an awareness of potential hazards when they are on outings. She states she discusses road safety with older children so they learn to be safe outside the home.

The childminder has a good understanding of procedures to protect children. She has completed a training course on safeguarding children since her last inspection. She is fully aware of where to raise any concerns regarding children's well-being and discusses any pre-existing injuries with parents. However, the childminder has not thought to record this information so it is not available for reference.

## **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children enter the premises confidently and display a warm relationship with the childminder, for example, they chatter freely on returning from a trip. Children quickly settle into using the toys and resources. They play together well, for example, with the home corner resources. Children have a settled routine to their day that is similar to that of nursery setting, developing a clear sense of security amongst the children.

Children experience a good range of activities. They enjoy creative play such as roller painting. Displays of work show that they learn to use paint in a variety of ways, for instance hand or free hand painting and use tools such as, paintbrushes or cotton buds to create different effects. Photographic evidence shows children playing with water, sand and taking part in cooking activities. Children also experience activities outside the home. They visit toddler groups to socialise, and the park to help to feed the ducks.

Children have great fun moving during a music session and receive encouragement from the childminder. Children enthusiastically take part in the dancing and are clearly familiar with the movements to songs and rhymes such as, the 'Wheels on the Bus'. When they stamp their feet, enthusiastically wave their hands to make windscreen wipers and jump up and down.

Children have access to a variety of activities to encourage them to progress in their learning such as imaginative and creative play. Children are developing their speech through the childminder's effective questioning techniques. They independently choose books and are attentive to books and stories read by the childminder.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are positively encouraged to develop self-care skills, such as taking off their shoes after a walk. The childminder says that training in the Birth to three matters framework helps her adapt her activities to ensure they provide more opportunities for children to make choices. Children have freedom to select from a good range of stage/age suitable toys. They make choices during routines such as, during meal times and this develops their self-assurance.

Children enjoy a variety of opportunities to learn about their local community through visits to toddlers, the shops and the local park. They have access to some resources to develop their awareness of differences such as, small world figures and play food from other countries. As a result, they have some opportunities to understand diversity.

Children behave well during inspection. They respond to the childminder's requests to tidy, take off their shoes and sit well for meals. Children receive praise for this good behaviour, so they know when they have done well. Children spontaneously ask to leave the table and the childminder says 'what lovely manners you have'. However, there is limited discussion with parent's about the behaviour management strategies.

Systems for partnership with parents are satisfactory. The childminder shares some policies and service information with parents verbally at the agreement stage. Parents receive good feedback about their child's care via a daily diary and learn about their child's participation in the activities through a personal scrapbook of photographs of them playing and learning. The complaints procedures remain limited.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit as the childminder organises a colourful, comfortable and spacious play environment within her family home. As a result, children have ample space to play, eat and rest. The activities for children are planned, well organised and adapted well so that even young children can participate in painting activities fully. Children have plenty of adult support to help them feel confident and secure within the setting and a parent spoken to says that her child has settled into the setting very easily.

The childminder has attended training offered by Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership since her last inspection but unfortunately, her first aid qualification has expired.

Records are maintained so that parents are told of any accidents or medication given to children and there is a record of attendance. However, she has not thought to record incidents such as, pre-existing injuries. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the childminder was asked to ensure that her conditions of registration are complied with at all times and to complete an appropriate first aid course. She also agreed to improve the selection of play resources that reflect diversity. The childminder was also asked to improve procedures for keeping parents informed about children's daily activities and to develop a statement that provides details of how she manages any concerns about their care.

The childminder says she is fully aware of number of children she may look after, when working alone, or with her co-childminder. She states that she adheres to these at all times ensuring children receive quality care and support. She has completed an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children, since the last inspection but this has once again expired. She does however, demonstrate a satisfactory knowledge of how to manage injuries to children. The childminder has introduced effective methods for keeping parents informed about children's daily activities and their progress. She gives each parent a daily diary noting down all aspects of children's day care and their activities. However, there remains limited information for parents on how to raise concerns. As a result, the parent spoken to is unaware of how to contact Ofsted. The childminder now provides some resources to help children learn about diversity but this remains an area for development so that children have more opportunities to learn about the wider world.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

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.

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 QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. 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):

- up-date first aid knowledge by completing a first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children
- introduce a complaints procedure that complies with the changes to the regulations as set out in the Addendum to National Standards
- keep a record of children's pre-existing injuries and make sure that parents understand the childminder's role in the protection of 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)