



Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | 507258 |
| Inspection date | 30 January 2007 |
| Inspector | Ann Moss |
| 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 outstanding. 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 1997. She lives with her partner and two children aged 15 months and four years in Ashted, Surrey. The whole of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding three children under eight years and four children over eight years after school. The childminder drives to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the local parent and toddler group and takes children to the local library and park.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children remain healthy due to the high standard of cleanliness and good hygiene routines followed by the childminder. They understand the importance of maintaining good personal hygiene because the childminder raises their awareness through discussion and focused activities. For example, children design and display information posters such as hand washing, as a result, children readily practice robust hand washing procedures. They are protected from cross-infection due to the comprehensive policies and procedures in place, such as regarding contagious diseases, which work in practice. Minor accidents are handled effectively as the childminder uses her knowledge of first aid and ensures a well stocked first aid kit is easily accessible at all times.

Children benefit from the childminder's excellent knowledge of nutrition. The childminder takes account of the wishes of parents and the children's choices to provide nutritious snacks that appeal to all. Children's awareness of the importance of healthy eating is promoted exceedingly well through discussion and cooking activities such as making vegetable curry, vegetable somosa and nann bread. They keep a chart and record daily their healthy eating options such as fruit and vegetables. Children who are less interested are encouraged to choose healthy options through a system of merit marks.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities which contribute to their physical good health. There are planned outdoor activities to help them improve physical skills and develop body control. The large well planned garden is regularly used to ensure children have a wealth of opportunities for outside play and benefit from the effects of fresh air and exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children play in a homely and cheerful environment where they feel valued and secure because the childminder displays their art work for others to see. Children play with a vast range of good quality toys and resources, which are easily accessible and appropriate to their age and stage of development. The childminder conscientiously preserves children's wellbeing by continually monitoring safety issues in and around the home, and by supervising children closely. She understands and addresses children's developing changes through a process of ongoing risk assessments to keep the environment safe as children grow. Children learn to keep themselves safe because the childminder raises their awareness through interesting activities and topic's, which capture their attention, such as 'people who help us' for example, police, fire fighters and paramedics. They talk about stranger danger. When out walking they practice crossing the road safely using the green cross code. As a result, children are beginning to learn effective ways to keep themselves safe.

Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder has an excellent awareness of her responsibility to protect the children in her care and keeps her knowledge and skills up-to-date

through on-going training. Comprehensive policies and procedures, which are very clear, keep parents well informed.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children gain a high level of confidence. They are flourishing in an environment that is dedicated to their needs. The childminder meticulously plans and organises their day to ensure that they have time to pursue a variety of interesting activities to support and stimulate their development. Children are continually encouraged to be creative and to use their imagination; they show interest and enthusiasms when they listen to ancient Indian stories such as 'Rama and the Demon King' and make masks. They are captivated and inspired as they design and construct a dinosaur museum. They create ammonite fossils, made from salt dough, and dinosaur skeleton pictures. This increases their knowledge and helps them to make sense of the world around them. The childminder supports children's interests and careful planning means children can build on the skills they have already learnt, such as first aid. Children express themselves effectively. The childminder uses frequent questioning to increase and consolidate children's understanding. She listens and responds to their answers. Children's physical and emotional needs are extremely well met because the childminder is aware and perceptive to their changing needs. Children learn right and wrong from their observations of others. Children are highly valued and feel a sense of belonging and are very relaxed and comfortable in the surrounding.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children are treated as individuals and benefit from the childminder knowing them well and responding to their personal needs and character. The childminder gives children excellent opportunities to learn about the wider world they live in through outings and activities that effectively introduces them to other cultures, for example, festivals such as Diwali when children design their own Henna Mendhi handprint or make 'Sal Mubarak' new years cards or, Chinese New Year when they talk about the Year of the Dog and look at Chinese writing. Their appreciation of other cultures is further enhanced by the wide variety of dressing up clothes and toys, books and puzzles that reflect different cultures and depict characters with disability. Although the childminder does not have first hand experiences of children with learning difficulties/disabilities she is aware of the Code of Practice for children with special needs and is fully committed to inclusion.

Children are learning to manage their own behaviour through the good example displayed by the childminder. They are learning to be courteous and considerate of each other, understanding that their behaviour has an impact on others around them and in this way they are learning right from wrong. Older children make an active contribution to the setting's house rules which encourages standards of positive behaviour and helps to create a harmony within the home.

Children benefit from the superb relationships built between the childminder and parents. Information is freely shared between both parties. Clear, well presented policies, procedures photo's and displays provided by the childminder ensures parents are kept fully informed of

what their child has been doing. This is further supported by a written daily diary of each child's activities, under five years. The childminder values parents' comments and suggestions and feedback from parental questionnaires indicate that they are extremely happy with the service they receive.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

Children's care is significantly enhanced by the exceptional organisation. Comprehensive policies and procedures are individual to the setting, robust and fully support the practice to an exceptionally high standard. The qualified and experienced childminder gives her utmost priority to protecting children, promoting their well-being and ensuring that all children develop to their full potential. Parents are kept well informed about the service provided by regular verbal and written communication. All required documentation is in place, confidentially stored yet accessible for inspection. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the provider was asked to obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children. The childminder has now obtained parents' prior written permission to administer non-prescribed medicine to children. This helps to promote children's good health.

Complaints since the last inspection

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 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 outstanding. 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

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

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