



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY339873
<b>Inspection date</b>	23 January 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Sharon Henry

<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 was registered in 2006 and lives in the Woodford Green area within the London borough of Redbridge with her partner and two young sons. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time.

There is currently one child on roll.

The family have a dog

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and clean home. The childminder implements effective hygiene procedures and routines. Children are beginning to learn good hygiene practise and personal care through daily routines, such as regular hand washing. Children are protected from the spread of infection through the effective nappy changing arrangements. For example the childminder washes her hands between nappy changes and soiled nappies are disposed of in the outside bin. Children wash their hands after touching the dog and the dogs utensils are kept out of children's reach.

Children's care is consistent with that of home in case of accident or illness. Parents formally authorise accident records and give written consent for any administration of medication or emergency treatment and advice, as a result children's health is further promoted.

The present arrangement for children's meals is that the parents provide their food. Their meals are stored in the fridge and prepared as required. Children drink water regularly and the childminder is responsive to their request for drinks, in order to prevent any risk of dehydration.

Children's physical development is supported with daily walks to and from school and regular visits to toddler groups and drop ins where they have access to a wide range of outdoor activities such as bikes, slides and a spacious secure area where that can run, jump and skip

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a warm and welcoming environment, which enables them to feel settled and comfortable in their surroundings and contributes to them making the smooth transition from their home life. Effective use of space allows children to move freely and play with little disruption.

Children's safety is generally promoted within the childminder's home. She is aware of possible hazards within the home and have taken some action to reduce risk to children. For example, a safety gate prevents children from going upstairs and in the kitchen. However there are still some issues that need addressing to fully ensure children's safety. For example, the fixtures on the fire place are not secure, trailing flexes and smoke detectors not on all levels of the home and no fire blanket compromises children's safety.

Children benefit from a satisfactory range of furniture and play equipment. Equipment is clean and in good condition and conforms to safety standards. There are procedures in place to check equipment to ensure that it poses no risk to children.

The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues. She is aware of some of the possible indicators of abuse and possible symptoms. She is aware of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns. However she does not have the contact numbers of the local child protection team. As a result there may be a delay in reporting concerns.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have very good relationships with the childminder and they enjoy her company. This is because the childminder gives the children lots of positive time, attention, praise and encouragement. As a result the children have warm relationships with the childminder. Children language development is generally supported, through positive interaction from the childminder, which encourages children to respond verbally and with gestures. The childminder spends time talking to the children and participating in their play as she asks meaningful questions such as 'what's that?' and 'what have you got there ?' as a result children are learning to think and respond. Younger children enjoy music as they play with the musical computer pressing buttons to hear the tunes.

Children show interest in the activities set out and are confident in making choices and expressing their needs through a variety of ways.

Children under four benefit from a sufficient range and balance of equipment which generally supports their overall development, children's overall developmental needs are not fully supported insufficient age appropriate equipment and resources.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder gathers basic information from parents on the registration form so she is suitably informed and is able to meet individual needs. Children learn about the wider environment through discussions and visits to playgroups. However their learning is not maximised due to limited anti-discriminatory equipment within the home.

The childminder does not have any experience of caring for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. However she demonstrated a commitment to ensuring that children in her care receive equal concern and that the environment promotes inclusion.

The childminder uses appropriate techniques for managing children's behaviour, this helps children understand right from wrong and play together harmoniously. Strategies are discussed with parents to ensure a consistent approach. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged as the childminder models good behaviour and manners herself and praises children appropriately.

Children benefit from the childminder's commitment to working in partnership with parents. This ensures that the children's individual needs are well catered for and enables parents to play an active role in the care of their child. Information is shared with parents, who receive daily feedback on their child's progress. However parents are not made aware of the procedures to follow should they wish to make a complaint.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder supervises children carefully and checks have been carried out for all household members to ensure that children are suitably protected. Good use is made of available space providing children with sufficient space to play and rest in comfort.

All the required documentation is in place to support children's health, safety and well being. Documentation is organised and available for inspection. Confidentiality is maintained as the childminder ensures that all information relating to the children is kept securely. There are suitable systems in place to ensure that children's dates and attendance times are recorded accurately.

The childminder has not completed first aid training, but demonstrated some awareness of basic first aid.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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 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):

- improve children's safety by ensuring that smoke alarms are provided at every level of the home and that a fire blanket that conforms to BS EN standards is provided in the kitchen. Carry out a risk assessment on the trailing flexes and the fire place fixtures to assess the risk to children.
- develop equipment to ensure it meets the development needs of children aged 5-8 years. And ensure children have a range of equipment and resources that promote diversity.

- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children.
- ensure parents are aware of the procedures to follow should they have a complaint, and develop a system for logging complaints received by parents in line with current legislation

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)