



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	118029
Inspection date	26 April 2005
Inspector	Zelda Fay Parker

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1997. She lives with her husband and three children aged 15, 12 and 9 in North Ealing in the London Borough of Ealing.

The whole of the flat is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed communal garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently caring for 3 children under five all day and 2 children over five before and after school. The childminder is not registered to provide overnight care

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler group.

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 learn the importance of good personal hygiene through a well-planned daily routine. They are developing self help skills, as they are encouraged to wash their hands and brush their teeth after meals. Children have access to toys and equipment which are kept clean and in good state of repair.

The childminder keeps clear and accurate records, for example about any medication that needs to be given, this ensures that children's health needs are met and information can be effectively shared with parents.

The childminder takes account of the wishes of parents and children's choices to provide healthy meals and snacks to meet their individual dietary needs. For example she introduces a range of new foods into their diet, by taking them out to restaurants, where they enjoy sociable mealtimes with their peers. Children are offered regular drinks of water.

Children enjoy a range of energetic activities outside the home for example, developing their balance as they scramble up the climbing frame and co-ordination as they steer and pedal around on wheeled toys.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. They are able to move around the home safely and freely as potential safety hazards are identified and reduced.

Children make good use of space as they are free to explore the environment at ease. They independently choose activities from a range of good quality resources, which are clean and in good condition. Priority is given to the safety of children's toys and equipment, with regular checks for safety.

The childminder gives priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe and to maintaining children's safety outside the home. For example she explains road safety rules to children whilst walking to and from school.

The childminder has a good understanding of child protection because she has completed a course in child protection. She has knowledge of the correct procedure to follow if she has concerns about a child's health and welfare; a copy of the local

Area Child Protection Committee procedures is easily accessible.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are secure, confident and happy in their environment. They have good opportunities to develop skills through a varied selection of resources and well planned activities. For example playing with dominoes, this helps develop number and counting skills. They develop their social skills by going out to restaurants where they engage in conversation with both adults and their friends.

The childminder talks and listens to the children which extends their play and learning. Children benefit from regular outings to parent and toddler groups, Kew gardens and the children's museum, which helps in their learning and stimulates their interest in the wider world.

They relate well to the childminder because she joins in with their play and encourages them to try things for themselves. There is a varied selection of age appropriate toys and resources, many of the resources and toys promote children's early learning experiences. Such as imaginative, construction and creative materials.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. Their needs are met well as they follow their normal routine as discussed with their parents. Information is shared daily with parents about the child's day, for example food eaten, sleep patterns and activities they have taken part in.

Children are beginning to learn about other people, as the childminder raises their awareness of cultures and varying needs, through resources such as books, play figures and puzzles and outings in the local community. Children also experience dishes from other cultures.

The childminder uses positive methods for managing children's behaviour. For example by setting boundaries, using praise rather than criticism and talking to children about behaviour, this helps children learn right from wrong. The behaviour management policy is shared with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are comfortable and secure in a well organised home, which helps them gain confidence and independence. The childminder has a good sound knowledge of how young children develop and is able to meet their developmental needs effectively.

The childminder keeps all the required records that contribute to children's health, safety and well being. There is an appropriate system in place to maintain children's records, these are regularly reviewed and up dated with changes. However, written parental consent for additional activities is not obtained.

The childminder is committed to improving her practice and knowledge of childcare and regularly attends training to enhance her skills. For example, she has completed the Developing Childminding Practice (DCP) course and plans to develop her knowledge by doing Birth to Three Matters. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- obtain written parental permission for additional activities.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk