

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	100282
<b>Inspection date</b>	15 May 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Lorraine Sparey

<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 good. 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 1986. She lives with her husband who acts as her assistant and adult daughter. They live in a house in Muscliff, Bournemouth, within walking distance of schools, pre-schools, toddler groups and parks. The whole of the ground floor and two first floor bedrooms are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed rear garden for outside play.

A maximum of six children may attend at any one time and there is currently 13 children on roll. All the children attend on a part time basis. The childminder regularly attends a local carer and toddler group. She is a member of the local childminders' group.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children follow good hygiene practices and they know and understand when and why they wash hands. A four year old tells an adult 'We need to wash away germs'. Each child has their own flannel and towels with their names embroidered on to ensure they know which one is

theirs and to minimise cross infection. Children benefit from the childminder and her assistant being positive role models. They give clear explanations to the children promoting their awareness of keeping themselves healthy. Effective nappy changing procedures ensure that children are comfortable. There are procedures to ensure that when children are potty training they are well supported. Children's health and general well-being is further supported by the childminder implementing a comprehensive range of policies and procedures. These include a sick child policy which gives clear information to prevent the spread of infection. The childminder has completed specific training to support additional medical conditions requiring the use of an epipen.

Children enjoy a healthy and nutritious diet. The parents and the childminder share the provision of food. A healthy eating policy supports the children's awareness of healthy foods. They benefit from nutritious snacks such as crudité's of carrot and various fresh fruits. Children have good opportunities to increase their fitness levels and physical development as they regularly walk to and from school and visit the local parks.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming and well maintained environment. They can move safely between all areas of the home increasing choices in their play. There is an extensive range of toys and equipment. The childminder ensures that there is a suitable range set out each day for children to safely choose. There are effective procedures to ensure that the resources are kept clean and well maintained at all times. Children are beginning to take responsibility for their own safety and the childminder gives them clear advice to help them learn. For example, while walking across the playing fields to school the childminder talks about dogs. She explains that if a dog does run up to them they must stand very still and wait for her. Children's safety within the home is well promoted. The childminder ensures the environment is safe and well maintained. Children are very familiar with the evacuation procedures. They confidently describe which exit to go through depending on where the emergency is.

Children are safeguarded from harm and neglect because the childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of her role in protecting children from abuse. She has attended various courses to ensure that her knowledge remains up to date.

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

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and settled with the childminder. They are confident and benefit from the high quality interaction from both the childminder and her assistant. Older children come home from school and quickly settle into their chosen activity. Children enjoy a range of activities and play opportunities designed to meet their specific needs, such as weighing ingredients whilst making bread and dough, making plaster of Paris models and puppet shows. Children enjoy good opportunities to develop their imagination and there is a wide range of dressing up clothes and resources to support their play. The younger children enjoy building a train track with the childminder. One child says 'I've stopped the train so that the people can get on'. The childminder responds 'Thank you that's kind, now the people can get on the train'. Throughout the activity the childminder and her assistant talk with the children and encourage them to think. They talk about animals that they are going to transport on the train and the sequence of traffic lights to ensure the train stops and starts at the right time. Later they enjoy

a game of hide and seek. One child hides an object and helps the others find it by giving clues. The childminder and the assistant actively take part in the activity.

Children are able to choose from an extensive range of toys and resources, the childminder ensures there is a range of activities available each day depending on the children attending. Children regularly go on outings to places of interest such as nature walks at Moors Valley, Throop Mill and Avon country Park.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are polite and well mannered and are keen to help each other. Children benefit from the childminder and her assistant being positive role models in the way they speak to the children and to each other. Children's individual needs are exceptionally well catered for. Recently the childminder organised a birthday party for one of the children. They enjoy a wide range of old fashioned games and party food. The childminder clearly knows the children very well and ensures the activities promote their individual interests. She supports the children extremely well. For example, one child brings home the puppet from preschool. The childminder involves all the children in an activity using the puppet. Children quickly develop a strong sense of belonging. The childminder and her assistant talk with the children about their families and significant events. Children enjoy looking at the photographs of themselves involved in activities.

Children learn about the wider world through a range of activities and playing with the resources. Children with additional needs are very well supported. The childminder actively seeks information and advice on meeting their individual needs. Children benefit from the strong relationships developed between their parents and the childminder. There are good systems in place to keep parents informed and parents report they are very pleased with the quality of care their children receive. They feel included and welcomed by the childminder and her assistant and their children are very happy. There is a comprehensive range of policies and procedures to ensure that parents are well informed about the service offered.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides care. She is committed to providing positive outcomes for children. The childminder plans a good range of activities and play opportunities for the children. There is an extensive range of toys and resources and the childminder ensures that there is a suitable range each day. However, at times this limits children's ability to freely choose what they would like to play with, or extend their play. The space is used effectively to allow children to freely move around all the play areas depending on what they are playing with. The childminder has all the appropriate documentation which is stored securely to maintain confidentiality. She has a range of policies and procedures which are shared with parents to ensure that they are aware of the service she offers. Children are well supported by the childminder and her assistant.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the childminder agreed to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote positive images of disability. The childminder has

provided additional resources including some puzzles that she has made herself depicting positive images of disabilities. This increases children's understanding of diversity through play.

### **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 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):

- continue to review the organisation of resources to maximise children's choices in their play

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)