



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY301160
Inspection date	03 May 2005
Inspector	Karen Cooper

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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder lives with her partner and two children in the Castle Bromwich area of Solihull. Minded children have access to the whole of the ground floor, the first floor bathroom and small bedroom. There is a fully enclosed garden available for play. The location is convenient for schools, playgroups, parks and shops. The family have a cat.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding one child on a full time basis. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are beginning to learning about hygiene when they wash their hands before meal times and are attempting to attend to their own personal hygiene needs such as when wiping their nose. They benefit from readily available drinks, healthy nutritious meals and snacks and information is regularly shared with parents to ensure that their wishes are being respected. Children are well cared for in the event of an accident or illness and there are effective procedures in place to protect them from infection, although the first aid box requires further attention.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and welcoming home where indoor and outdoor space is organised to allow them to move around freely and independently. There is a suitable range of furniture and equipment which ensures children are able to play, eat and rest comfortably. Items are safe and in good condition and children are able to reach their toys easily.

Most aspects of safety within the home have been addressed and equipment is checked on a regular basis to ensure the safety of the children, however low level drawers and cupboards where sharp knives and dangerous substances are kept, require further attention. The premises are secure and there are effective procedures in place for the safe arrival and collection of children.

Children's welfare is protected through the childminders appropriate knowledge of child protection issues and of the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The Children are happy, settled and are beginning to develop good relationships with adults and their peers. They play well together and confidently express their needs. They benefit from a suitable range of toys and resources, which help them to make progress in their development and regularly make use of the well equipped garden for more active and physical play. They are developing their independence by being able to access resources for themselves. They regularly attend toddler groups and often socialise with other children. Daily routines are flexible to ensure that the needs of the children are being met.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are able to access the whole range of toys and resources, however they have limited access to toys that reflect positive images of our wider world. Children are valued and respected as individuals and regular discussions with parents ensures that their needs are met.

Children are happy, confident and play well together. They are aware of the boundaries within the home and methods of behaviour are clear, consistent and age appropriate.

Children are cared for in accordance with parents wishes and information is shared on a regular basis to ensure that they are informed of their child's daily events and progress.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

All documentation which contributes to the children's health, safety and well-being, are in place, stored securely and reviewed regularly. Records are frequently shared with parents to keep them informed about the service and to ensure that their child's needs are being met. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

N/A as this is the first inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?
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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):

- ensure the first aid box complies with health and safety regulations
- ensure that potential hazards in the kitchen are inaccessible to the children
- ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

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