

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY343434
Inspection date	12 March 2007
Inspector	Natasha Parsons
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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2006. She lives with her partner and two children aged three and five in Woodford Green in the London borough of Redbridge. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and upstairs for sleeping. 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 two children under five.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for and play in a clean environment where they are encouraged to develop good hygiene practises. For example, the childminder ensures that children wash their hands before and after they have eaten and after playing in the garden. She explains to the children this helps to stop the spread of germs.

Children's nappies are changed both regularly and when soiled. The childminder takes all the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of germs, for example, she washes her hands

before and after each nappy change and nappies are appropriately disposed off. Children have individual towels they are changed on, and these are placed on the floor to ensure their safety.

Mealtimes are a sociable occasion, as they sit and eat together. Children are provided with healthy balanced meals, snacks and regular drinks. For example, the children's lunchtime meal included potato, vegetables and meat. The childminder prepares raw vegetable sticks as a snack healthy option. Children's dietary needs are met as the childminder collects appropriate information from parents and introduces new foods to babies with their support.

The childminder provides children with regular opportunities to experience physical activities in the garden, at the local park and within other safe settings. She goes out daily with the children and mainly use a buggy, while older children walk where it is safe. Her home is suitably organised to ensure babies who are crawling can move freely with enough space. Children have daily naps when they are tired, where they rest comfortably in a quiet bedroom.

Children are protected as the childminder understands the requirements relating to the recording of accidents and the administration of medication. Parents provide written consent for emergency medical treatment. The childminder is currently completing a relevant first aid course.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean home where most areas are safe. However, while the childminder prepares food children are not always closely supervised, which poses a risk to babies who are crawling.

Children are able to move freely downstairs. Precautions such as stair gates, socket covers, locks on kitchen cupboard are in place to ensure children are safe and adequately protected from potential dangers. Upstairs is used for resting purposes to ensure children can sleep undisturbed.

The childminder ensures she regularly risk assesses the indoor premises, to enable her to continue to both identify and address potential hazards. However, the patio doors, which can only be accessed by children from outside, are not currently included in this risk assessment.

Children have safe access to good quality toys and activities, suitable for their stages of development. The childminder ensures items with small parts, that could cause choking are inaccessible to babies and young children.

Children are protected as the childminder has a sound knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and would seek advice from the appropriate agencies if she had concerns about a child in her care. The childminder is committed to participating in appropriate training to further safeguard children in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to a satisfactory range of play materials and activities, which are regularly changed so they are able to develop their play experiences. Children were using a large box,

as a house and enjoyed this improvised play. Parents are aware of the daily activities the children participate in and their achievements.

Children go on daily walks and outings to the local park and shops. This enables them to learn about the world around them. Outings are incorporated into the childminders future plans.

Children are settled and content in the childminder's care. They respond to her confidently and interact well. The childminder has a sound knowledge of child development, and uses this to plan for children's next stage of development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are learning about diversity through an adequate range of books and play materials. These help to promote their understanding of different people and the world around them. The childminder seeks advice and support to extend her own knowledge and reflects this in her working practices.

Children benefit from consistent clear boundaries, that reflect their ages and stages of development. The childminder has a written managing behaviour policy which she shares with parents. Children behave well and interact in a caring manner towards each other.

The childminder actively encourages parents input and is committed to working in partnership with them. This ensures that's children's individual needs are met, and parents have an active role in the care of their child. Children benefit from a settling procedure that is managed to meet their individual needs. Parents are kept informed about their child's day, their progress and activities undertaken, in a daily record book. This daily sharing of information, both verbally and written, ensures parents are aware of their child's eating and sleeping patterns during the day.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children receive caring support from the childminder. She interacts appropriately with them and plans her day and activities to meet their individual needs. Children's eating and sleeping needs are met and they have lots of opportunity to explore and play during their time with her. The childminder limits the number of children she cares for to ensure she can provide appropriate care.

All required records are in place, contain the necessary information which are maintained and easily accessible. This helps to promote the welfare of the children.

The childminder is committed to attend further relevant training courses to extend her knowledge of good childcare practises. She is currently attending a relevant first aid course. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 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):

- ensure children are supervised according to their age and ability, particularly when involved in tasks such as the preparation of lunch.

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