

Ms Josephine Anna Wiseman

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	137743
Inspection date	21 March 2007
Inspector	Caren Carpenter

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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1981. She lives in a three bedroom house with her husband, who is a registered childminder. They live within the London borough of Brent. The childminder is registered for a maximum of six children and has five children on roll. The childminder and her husband may care for a maximum of 10 and currently they are caring for 14 children between them. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

All areas of the premises are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The childminder takes and collects children from a local school. The childminder takes children to local parks and on outings during school holidays. 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's health is well promoted, as the childminder sustains good levels of hygiene throughout her home. They learn about the importance of washing their hands before meals and after

using the toilet. Children are protected from unnecessary illness and are well cared for in emergency situations as the childminder has thorough procedures in place for accidents.

Children enjoy a range of healthy snacks and meals which are provided to meet their individual dietary requirements. They know when to ask for a drink when they are thirsty. Children benefit from regular outdoor exercise as they enjoy playing in the garden. They develop large muscle skills as they participate in a range of team sporting games, such as badminton and races. This promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm, secure and welcoming home, where risks are minimised. They are able to feel relaxed and at home as space has been organised to meet their individual needs. For example, they eat and play comfortably.

Suitable furniture and a good range of resources creates a safe and stimulating environment. Toys and resources are well organised to promote children's independence. They select their own toys and play equipment and initiate their own play ideas.

The childminder has the required documents and procedures in place to ensure child's welfare is safe guarded and promoted. For example, she has appropriate written child protection procedures along with a good understanding of her role and responsibilities in this area.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are highly involved in the activities set out for them. They enjoy their time spent at the childminder's. Children use their initiative by selecting toys and resources to play with from those available. They eagerly share games with each other and the childminder. Children enjoy a range of activities that are stimulating and appropriate for them. They enjoy arts and craft and playing games such as 'Snakes and Ladders'. Children delight in the childminder's company as they are talked to and nurtured by the childminder.

Children's confidence and self-esteem is developed by being listened to and by having their needs responded to by the childminder. They benefit from the time she spends supporting their play and praising them for the things they can do and try hard at. This reinforces strong relationships with their peers and the childminder. Children make positive relationships with each other. They have relaxed conversations with the childminder. Children learn what is right and wrong, to be considerate of each other and to share. The daily routine ensures that children have a familiar and consistent environment, which enhances their feeling of security.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children learn about the world they live in as the childminder provides suitable toys and resources. The childminder understands the importance of helping them to develop a strong identity and feel good about themselves, their family and others. As a result, children gain self-assurance and confidence.

Children are well behaved. They understand responsible behaviour as they know what the childminder expects of them. The childminder has appropriate strategies for managing children's behaviour effectively. For example, by talking to the children and helping them to solve their own minor disputes with each other.

Children are happy and content because parents share information about their child's individual needs, interests and experiences with the childminder. The childminder has an open and honest relationship with parents. This means that children's needs are met well by the childminder. The childminder is aware of the requirement to record any complaints. However, a method to do this is not yet in place.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's welfare, care and development needs are met very effectively as the childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of caring for young children. She is well-organised, warm and affectionate towards the children who are relaxed and very happy in her care. The organisation of space and resources enables children to move around freely as they choose toys, play and relaxed comfortably.

The childminder has attended relevant training to update her knowledge and awareness of childcare issues. However, the childminder's first aid certificate is not up to date. This may limit the assistance children receive from the childminder during an emergency. Children's overall care, learning and welfare are enhanced by the information shared between parents and the childminder. Written policies and procedures are put into practice to ensure children are well cared for. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection the childminder was required to ensure that daily attendance records of all minded children are legible to determine that the required adult to child ratio is met. Children's welfare is promoted because the childminder maintains a daily attendance register as required, according to the ages of the children and the days they attend.

The childminder was required to improve fire safety precautions by ensuring that emergency evacuations are practised periodically and recorded; to improve fire safety precautions by keeping written records of smoke alarm checks. Children are learning about fire safety. The childminder conducts regular fire drill practices, these are recorded. The childminder carries out monthly checks to ensure that smoke alarms are in good working condition. Records are maintained and include the dates.

The childminder was required to obtain parents' written consent for any medicinal product administered, prescribed or non-prescribed. Children's good health is well promoted. The childminder ensures that parents provide written permission for administering prescribed medication to their children.

The childminder was required to obtain a copy of the area child protection committee procedure. Children are protected from harm because the childminder has updated her knowledge and understanding of child protection issues, by attending training. The childminder has in place a copy of the local safeguarding children's board procedures.

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):

- update first aid certificate for infants and young children
- keep a log of complaint made by parents

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