

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY283543
Inspection date	12 April 2007
Inspector	Jennifer Liverpool
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 inadequate – notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives with her daughter aged 16 years in the Leytonstone area within the London borough of Waltham Forest. The whole of the ground floor and a first floor room is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of two children at any one time and is currently minding one child over five after school and during the school holidays. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children's health is undermined as the childminder does not have a suitable first aid qualification or have essential details such as full medical information and relevant consent for urgent medical treatment in the event of severe injuries. As a result of this, children are at risk of not receiving

appropriate care. Furthermore, there is no system in place for recording accidents or medication administered to children. A fully stocked first aid box is available and stored out of children's reach.

Children are well nourished as they are provided with meals brought in from home. This means that children eat food that meets with their individual dietary requirements. The childminder ensures children's lunch boxes are stored at an appropriate temperature to prevent the food from spoiling. Regular trips to the schools and outings to the park give children some opportunities to develop their physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Children's safety is put at risk when being transported in the vehicle from school. This is because car seats are not made available to ensure that children are safe when in the car. Despite there being appropriate fire safety equipment such as working smoke alarms on all floor, the fire blanket is not readily accessible because it is kept in the original plastic wrapping and is located away from the cooker. The childminder carries out basic risk assessments and ensures that stairs, storage cupboards, toxic substances and the garden shed are inaccessible to children. Overall, not enough steps are taken to promote children's safety in and out of the home.

Children have ample space to work, rest and play and the premises is secure. They are able to access the toilet independently because it is in close proximity to the main play area. Children have generally good access to a range of toys and equipment that are mainly in good repair and appropriate for their developmental needs. Appropriate furniture is provided for children to sleep and rest comfortably. The childminder has a moderate understanding of child protection issues and is aware of the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled in the childminder's care. Their likes, dislikes and preferences of activities are generally known and taken into consideration when offering activities. The organisation of the satisfactory range of toys allows children to select independently and be able to make some choices for themselves. Additionally, children are encouraged to choose from the different colours of drawing papers and the quantity they wish to use. As a result of this children are developing their independence and sense of control. Children enjoy drawing and colouring their pictures.

Children received appropriate support to help them learn letters of the alphabet through singing; develop counting skills in practical ways such as counting fingers and hands and to recognise and name different colours. Children's language and communication skills are generally promoted because the childminder asks questions that encourage them to talk and share their experiences with others. The childminder listens carefully and values children's comments. Children confidently talk about their visit to the local farm and name the different types of animals they have seen.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is inadequate.

Children are at risk as a result of the childminder's failure to obtain necessary information such as their date of birth, immunisation and health contacts when seeking help or advice from the emergency services. Despite receiving brief written details that highlights children's preferences and health needs, not all relevant information about children is in place and parental consents have not been obtained. The childminder shares information about children's general well-being on a day to day basis. Parents have access to a documentation pack that includes qualification and training certificates, suitability checks and an out of date insurance certificate. However, parents are not informed of the procedure to follow if they wish to make a complaint.

Children are helped to become aware of the differences and diversity of their community through basic resources such as dolls, books and pictures. The childminder is currently not minding children with learning or physical disabilities. Children are generally well behaved because the childminder help them to understand basic rules and encourage them to develop social skills such as sharing. Children benefit from praise and encouragement.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children's health, safety and general welfare is not promoted because the childminder has failed to meet with the regulations for keeping certain records such as children's attendance register and their date of birth on the premises. This means that in the event that there is a need to check historical information children will not be protected. In addition to this the certificate of registration is not displayed which result in parent's inability to check the status of her registration. Furthermore, insufficient safety measures are in place to avoid dangerous situations.

Children are cared for in a secure environment with sufficient space for work, rest and play. They are provided with a satisfactory range of activities and resources that is made available to them each day. The childminder has attended various childcare courses in the past and she is aware of the procedures to protect children from harm and notification of significant incidents. However she lacks up to date knowledge of first aid and has limited knowledge and understanding of the National Standards. As a result of this, the childminder does not meet 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- take steps to improve own knowledge and understanding of administering first aid for infants and young children
- assess the risk to children in relation to transporting them in a vehicle and take action to minimise these
- inform parents of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint
- keep records of the personal details of each child and obtain written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment and outings.
- improve knowledge and understanding of the requirements set out in regulations and set in place a procedure to keep records of children's attendance and to display the registration certificate.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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