

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY337600
Inspection date	22 May 2007
Inspector	Vivienne Rose
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 adult daughter in a three bedroom house located in Becton, in the London borough of Newham. The whole of the ground floor and the upstairs bathroom of the childminder's are used for the children and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for five children at any one time and is currently minding one child on a part-time basis. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children.

The childminder has a dog.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children receive good support to develop their understanding of personal hygiene. They understand the expectations of the childminder. For example, they happily remove their shoes in the house and wash their hands when coming in from the garden to prevent cross infection. Children are well cared for in a clean and hygienic environment. There are procedures in place

to record accidents. However, the arrangements for written parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment are not yet in place. Children's dietary and medical needs are recorded effectively to ensure their well-being. The daily opportunities to use the garden area and to use a range of equipment, such as bikes and a trampoline, support the children's physical skills well.

Children are given a range of nutritious meals which include home cooked stews with rice and chicken with noodles. The children enjoy the beef stew provided and ask for more. They are given fresh fruit, which includes bananas and apples, as snacks to increase their understanding of what they need to keep them healthy. Children have regular opportunities to have drinks throughout the day, these include water and fruit juice to support their physical well-being.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well looked after in a home which is secure, where children are welcomed and supported by the childminder. She spends quality time with them and supports their understanding of safety. For example, reminding them to be careful when climbing the stairs and clearing away toys to ensure that they do not trip and hurt themselves. Good quality toys and resources are laid out for the children and are easily accessible in low-level storage. This encourages children's independence and choice. Children are confident to ask for toys and activities and they make requests for example, 'I want to paint now'.

Children are beginning to learn about keeping themselves safe when the childminder carries out emergency evacuation procedures. Suitable safety measures for example, gates and safety locks are provided. The children's arrival and departure times are recorded effectively. Children learn about keeping safe whilst out and waiting for the 'Green Man' before crossing the road with the childminder. However, the childminder has not requested written parental permission for children to go on outings outside of the home to fully ensure their safety.

Children's welfare in the event of child protection concerns is satisfactory. The childminder has a good knowledge of what to do and how to proceed if she has concerns about a child in her care this supports their well-being. However, at present the childminder does not record incidents or accidents which occur outside of the childminder's home. This does not fully safeguard the children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have good opportunities to explore and learn. The childminder gives lots of one to one attention to the children in her care. They have a good, relaxed relationship which is friendly and caring, this supports their development and self-esteem. Children enjoy participating in activities such as water and sand play and 'fishing with the fishing rod'. They paint, play with puzzles and games, dress up and listen to stories at story time at the end of the day. However, there are fewer opportunities for the children to access books independently for pleasure at other times as they are kept upstairs in the quiet room. Children's interest in numbers and letters are supported when they play card games and when they sing number rhymes and songs. The childminder takes the opportunity to extend children's learning and understanding of the world when they grow sunflower seeds in the garden. Children are happy in the play environment created by the childminder, they can make choices and become independent when they choose what they want to do.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued and respected as individuals, their needs are well met and they follow their normal daily routines as discussed with parents. Children are encouraged to behave well as the childminder is calm and consistent; she praises children for good behaviour which supports their self-esteem. Children respond to the childminder's expectations and are polite and say 'please and thank you' for example, when they ask for 'more stew please'.

The childminder has a range of resources to reflect the wider world and to enable children to develop their understanding of others.

Children benefit from the good relationships between the childminder and the parents. Daily routines are shared to support consistency of care for the children. The childminder shares her written policies with parents which include equal opportunities, behaviour and child protection. This ensures that they are clear about the service provided. The childminder has discussed her complaints procedure with parents to ensure that they are fully informed about the process.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children feel at home and at ease in the family environment. Children benefit from good daily routines which are organised well. This means there is plenty of time for playtime, meals and garden play. There is a quiet time before home time where children and the childminder sit and read books together. These routines help the children feel confident and secure.

Most policies and procedures are used effectively and are shared with parents to promote the care and learning and welfare of the children. However, the childminder is yet to obtain written permission for emergency treatment for children. This coupled with the lack of records of incidents and written parental permission for outings means that children are not always fully protected. 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 that all accidents and incidents which occur outside of the childminder's are fully recorded.
- provide further opportunities for children to access books independently
- ensure that written parental permission is obtained for outings; emergency medical treatment

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