

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	973754
Inspection date	11 June 2007
Inspector	Rufia Uddin
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 has been registered since August 2001. She lives with her husband and one adult son. They live in a house in a quiet residential area within walking distance of shops and amenities in Newbury Park in the London Borough of Redbridge. All areas of the property are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The family has no pets and is a non smoking household

There are currently four children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are protected from illness and infection as the childminder follows good hygiene practice to maintain a clean environment for their care. She washes her hands thoroughly before preparing meals, and wears gloves when changing nappies. Children have individual flannels and are developing healthy routines. The childminder is first aid trained and systems are in

place for the safe administration of medication and the recording of accidents. The childminder has a first aid box, which is fully stocked. However, children's health is not assured in an emergency situation because the childminder does not obtain written parental consent to seek emergency medical treatment.

Children have good opportunities to develop and maintain healthy bodies. They move freely around the premises environment, are taken out daily in the fresh air and visit parks. Children sit together at the dining table to eat which enables all children to eat together developing their social skills at mealtimes. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure children's catering needs are suitably met. She makes sure children have regular drinks to keep them sufficiently hydrated throughout the day. Children enjoy and are well nourished by the healthy and nutritious diet the parents provide, meeting their individual requirements. The childminder respects parental wishes and meets any dietary needs. The childminder appropriately stores and serves the food and children are offered regular drinks of water.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a generally safe and secure home where most risks are identified and minimised. The childminder's daily checks of her home and her good supervision of children help to ensure they are protected from harm. Children have sufficient room to play, a quiet place to rest and a comfortable area to enjoy meals. Appropriate safety measures are in place to protect children, including stair gates, cupboard locks and plug socket covers. Appropriate fire safety equipment, such as smoke alarms and a fire blanket, are available. The childminder has a suitable emergency evacuation plan in place, although she has not yet practised fire drills with children to help them understand what they should do in an emergency. There is no lock on the garage door to prevent children entering an area which has not been prepared as a safe environment.

Children's welfare and wellbeing are safeguarded as the childminder has a sound understanding of child protection recording and reporting procedures. Children can explore and enjoy the reasonably well-equipped premises. The play provisions are accessible to the children, and they make choices when accessing play provisions.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children settle well at the childminders home. The childminder responds to the children and initiates looking at books and singing with them. Children's independence is fostered as they can choose between a variety of toys, books and appropriate activities. Children are interested and engaged in the activities of drawing and colouring. The young children enjoy being close to the childminder and snuggle in while watching the older children play. Children enjoy their time when they return from school as the childminder is sensitive to balancing the school day with relaxation and interesting activities. A varied range of resources are organised so that children are able to access them independently. The childminder is not aware of the Birth to three matters framework and does not plan regular activities for the younger children to promote their learning.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about their local community as they visit local parks and shops. They have access to a selection of resources to help them learn about others in the community, this includes, books and puzzles to reflect cultures and dressing up clothes to depict different roles. However, the range to reflect a positive image of disability is limited. The childminder has experience of caring for children with a disability and/or learning difficulty and she demonstrates a positive and realistic attitude to meeting the needs of all children.

The childminder is a good role model and treats children with care and respect. She manages children's behaviour sensitively, helping them to learn to take turns and share fairly. Good manners are encouraged, Children respond well to gentle reminders to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Suitable arrangements are in place to share relevant information with parents or carers and to ensure any concerns or complaints are appropriately handled and recorded. Daily verbal dialogues take place each day, in order to share information about children's welfare and development,.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder holds a recognised child care qualification and is well experienced. Children feel at home and at ease with the environment. The childminder provides a stimulating environment for play and maintains good communication systems with parents. The children can choose to play independently with the easily accessible play and learning resources. This means they are confident in their own play and learning. She has clear procedures in place to safeguard minded children from persons who are not vetted and she always makes sure that children are not left alone with persons who have not been vetted such as visitors. The childminder has a first aid certificate, but this needs to be updated.

Children have warm, trusting relationships with the childminder and are settled and secure in her care. They benefit from her commitment to working in partnership with parents, to ensure she knows them well as individuals and their care is consistent.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

In the last childcare inspection the following recommendations were also made:

- 1.Complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children.
- 2.Develop knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.
- 3.Develop knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities issues
- 4.Ensure identified risks have been made safe.
- 5.Ensure record of attendance shows times of arrival and departure.
- 6.Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

The childminder has a Basic First Aid certificate and knows how to deal with accidents effectively ensuring children's health is maintained in the event of an accident. Children are well protected and safeguarded from harm because the childminder has a good understanding of her role with regards to child protection issues. She is aware of the procedures to follow should she have concerns about children in her care. She has attended a training course on child protection awareness and as result she is confident in her ability to deal with any child protection concerns. Records of children's attendance are in place, these include the child's full names and the exact times children are in the childminder's care are recorded on a daily basis, ensuring all are protected should a child protection issue arise. Improvements have been made to eliminate some identified risks, for example safety film has been added to glass, locks fitted, and drains have been covered.

In the last childcare inspection the childminder was also asked to develop knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities issues. The childminder has not attended a training course on equal opportunities but has read some literature on the subject. She has obtained some play resources that reflect positive images of different groups in society that help meet the developmental needs of young children.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since inspection, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action to meet the National Standards. The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they must 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):

- obtain written parental consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice
- continue to improve existing safety procedures by ensuring that the garage is inaccessible to children, and practise fire evacuation procedure with children and keep records of drills.
- ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- continue to develop a wider range of activities for the younger children by using the birth to three matters framework
- Update First Aid certificate

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