

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	113102
<b>Inspection date</b>	21 May 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Sheila Collins

<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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 1998. She lives with her husband and two children aged 14 and 9 years in Popley, close to Basingstoke town centre. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding three children, one under five, on a part time basis. The childminder takes children to and collects from the local school.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about personal hygiene through their daily routine. The childminder encourages them to wash their hands after going to the toilet but is not proactive in ensuring that they wash their hands before eating.

The childminder actively promotes the good health of the children and responds appropriately when they are ill. She has permission to seek emergency medical treatment and a system in place for recording medication and accidents. However the recording of accidents does not ensure confidentiality. The childminder has a current first aid certificate, which ensures that any minor accidents are treated appropriately.

The childminder has knowledge of the children's medical and dietary needs. Parents supply the children's meals and drinks. The children can access drinks easily for themselves. The children's individual routines are followed and if a child needs to sleep this may be in a pushchair.

The children enjoy physical exercise and the childminder takes them out daily. They go to gym tots, on walks and to the local park to play on the fixed equipment, which helps them to develop physically.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder assesses the risks to the children so ensuring that the children are safe both within and outside the home. The children know which areas of the house they can use and that they do not use the garden without the childminder. The childminder has thought through her emergency evacuation plan. The fire blanket is in place in the kitchen but is not easily accessible in an emergency.

There is a suitable range of equipment available for the age and stage of the children attending, which includes items such as safety barriers. The children use a range of toys and resources, which cover all areas of their development. However toys and resources which promote positive images of equality of opportunity and anti discriminatory practice are limited. The children freely choose from the toys that are available within the playroom and are able to play with these both in the playroom and living room.

The childminder has knowledge of child protection issues. She has an understanding of the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child, which ensures their welfare.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children have good relationships with the childminder. She is aware of individual children's developmental needs and ensures they receive appropriate support. The childminder plans each day according to the needs of the children attending and their routines. The children select what they want to play with and involve the childminder in their play. She sits on the floor with them encouraging small world play. The children enjoy drawing in the play room, making sticker pictures and sharing books with the childminder. The childminder listens to and talks with the children to develop their language skills, acknowledging what they say. The children receive praise and encouragement from the childminder, which promotes their self-esteem and confidence.

The children take part in a wide range and variety of activities, both in and out of doors. They go to gym tots every week and enjoy visits to the library and to feed the ducks. The older children when they come back from school involve the younger ones in their play for example playing schools. They help to plan activities in the holidays and go on outings into town with the childminder visiting soft play activity areas and the large park.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder ensures that the children have equal access to a range of age and stage appropriate resources. The childminder knows the children's individual needs and discusses issues with the parents to ensure continuity of care. She knows the routes of referral if she has concerns about a child in her care.

The childminder promotes the children's good behaviour and she uses age and stage appropriate strategies to manage any unwanted behaviour, including discussing with parents so that there is a similar approach at home. The childminder exchanges information through daily discussions with parents. A written contract in place with parents that sets out the expectations of both parties as to the care of the child and business arrangements.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

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

The childminder organises her time and the space available well, to give the children a good range of play and learning experiences both in and outside of the home environment. All the children benefit from the childminder's planning and organisation of the day. Their own routines are incorporated which makes them feel secure. The areas of the house used for childminding are well defined for the children.

The childminder does not have a copy of the National Standards and Guidance for Childminding. All the required documentation is in place to make sure that she is able to meet the individual needs of the children in her care. The certificate of registration is displayed for parents to see the conditions of registration.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection a recommendation was made for the childminder to update her knowledge on all areas of child protection.

The childminder feels that she would recognise any problems and knows the routes of referral should she have concerns about the welfare of a child in her care. She has the telephone numbers available for Social Services and the Police, should these be needed.

## **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 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 confidentiality of accident records
- ensure that the fire blanket in the kitchen is easily accessible in case of an emergency
- obtain a copy of the National Standards for Childminding.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)