



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	112392
Inspection date	09 June 2005
Inspector	Tonia Chilcott

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 1988. She lives with her husband and one adult child in Fair Oak, Southampton. All areas of the property, are registered for use whilst childminding however, this normally occurs downstairs. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 6 children at any one time and is currently minding 8 children on a part time basis.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends the

local parent and toddler group and takes children to the local libraries and the local park.

The family has no pets.

The childminder is a member of the Southampton Childminding Association (SCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean home, where most learn the importance of good personal hygiene. Children access individual towels and flannels for hand washing. Children choose their own towel when care commences enabling them to easily identify their own towels, thus reducing the spread of infection.

Children access a range of healthy snacks in the form of fruit. They are easily able to access drinks when they require it. The childminder has procedures in place to gather information about the children's dietary requirements and is consequently able to meet the individual needs of each child.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children move safely and confidently within the warm and welcoming environment. The childminder has a good understanding of safety and has effective procedures in place to ensure that risks to children are minimised. Children learn good practices to keep themselves safe, for instance whilst the childminder discusses road safety with them.

Children freely access and select activities from the wide range of toys and resources available. The childminder has effective procedures and routines in place to ensure that children access only toys and materials that are suitable for their age. Children's welfare is promoted by the childminders clear understanding of her policies and procedures. For instance she has a good understanding of child protection procedures which ensures that children are protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time with the childminder and confidently choose the activities that they wish to take part in from the wide variety available. Children are secure and confident due to the relationships that the childminder builds with them. Children access a good range of activities to support their individual needs. They are encouraged by the childminder, who knows the children well, allowing her to extend children's play further. For instance, whilst aiding children to recognise written letters.

Children enjoy looking at photographs of themselves in their photo albums that the childminder supplies. They proudly discuss their arts and crafts displays, that the childminder values by displaying them on the walls of the home. The children use their imaginations well when playing, for instance when dressing up as a lady in special shoes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children respond well to the childminders positive and consistent approach to managing behaviour. Children access an extensive resources and posters to promote a positive view of the wider world which extends children's understanding of others. The childminder praises children regularly which encourages them to behave well. Children are treated as individuals and equally. Good relationships and liaison with parents ensures that the individual needs of all children are met.

The childminder has procedures in place to share verbal information with parents about their child's achievements. This ensures that parents are able to provide the childminder with details about their child that enable her to provide for and meet the individual needs of all children in her care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the well thought out environment. Indoor space is well laid out allowing children room to play comfortably and freely. The childminder has a range of written policies and procedures that are used to effectively promote the welfare and development of all children. The childminder has a good awareness of the documentation that she needs to maintain and most are up to date and accurate although the register of attendance, at times, is not completed promptly.

Overall the provision meets the needs of children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

The childminder was asked at the last inspection to ensure that parents provide permission allowing children to be transported in vehicles. The childminder now has written permission in place for all children, consequently children are not transported in the car without parental consent.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report

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):

- Ensure that the record children's attendance is completed promptly
- Ensure that children are consistently encouraged to wash hands before eating.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk