

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference NumberEY275533Inspection date23 May 2005InspectorKate Daniel

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 applicant lives in a four bedroom semi detached property situated in Isleworth, Hounslow. The property is in a largely residential area, and is within walking distance of public transport. The applicant lives with her husband and two daughters. She intends to use all areas of the home with restricted access to three bedrooms. There is also access to a garden at the rear of the premises, which is safe and enclosed.

The family have two budgies, one rabbit and hamster and large fish tank, and will provide a non smoking environment.

The registration does not include overnight care.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a healthy diet that is tailored to meet their individual need and agreed with parents.

The childminder encourages children to enjoy their food by offering a diverse range of tastes and flavours that they will enjoy and willingly consume.

Children learn about good personal hygiene through the daily routines of the childminder and are encouraged to learn independence in hand washing.

Children's health is protected through good practice when changing nappies which help prevent the spread of infection and the home is clean and tidy. Toys are kept in good repair and conform to safety standards.

The childminder ensures that pets on the premises are safe to be in the proximity of minded children and have been properly vaccinated and children do not have access to their food supplies.

An appropriate procedure is followed should a child become ill in her care which ensures the immediate needs of the child are paramount however written parental permission to seek emergency treatment in the future should be sought at time of placement of child in setting.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are kept safe through the positive steps taken by the childminder to ensure that risks are minimised such as stair gates to prevent access to the kitchen and non use of the garden which has a swimming pool.

Children are protected from fire hazard through strategic placement of smoke alarms at all levels in the home and a clear evacuation plan in the event of a fire.

Children are escorted safely to local parks and facilities and the childminder ensures the safe control of children whilst out walking.

The childminder puts the well being of children as a first priority and has a clear understanding of possible signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect and knows whom to contact in the event of a concern.

Children are supervised at all times and resources and toys are regularly checked to ensure they are in clean and in good order.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The childminder interacts warmly with minded children and encourages children to be confident and develop good self-esteem.

Children are happy and confident in their relationship with the childminder and enjoy being at the setting. There are sufficient resources to engage and challenge learning and the childminder organises a good balance of home and outdoor activities to keep children stimulated in their play.

The childminder is flexible and changes planned activities to suit the individual needs of the child such as if a child needs to sleep.

Children enjoy access to a suitable range of age appropriate resources from which self selection can be made. This helps promote children's independent learning and their ability to make own choices.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The childminder liaises closely with parents to ensure that children's individual needs are met and has respect is shown for cultural and religious differences.

Children benefit from the opportunity to take part in a varied range of social situations that help develop an understanding of the wider world and their social skills.

Children are well behaved, the childminder uses positive methods such as explanation and setting clear boundaries to help children learn right from wrong. Children are praised and encouraged and the childminder has a high expectation of what they can achieve.

Children benefit from a close partnership with parents wherein all aspects of children's needs are openly discussed and shared. Relevant documents confirm expectations of both parties.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a qualified childminder committed to continuing professional development through attendance at regular workshops and who carries out her responsibilities well.

She works within the required ratios and organises her home to meet the needs of minded children so there is freedom to move about in comfort and unrestricted space to play with toys.

Children enjoy access to a varied range of learning opportunities and are well supported in their play by positive interaction with the childminder. Independence and good self esteem are encouraged and children are happy at the setting.

A positive partnership with parents ensures children are cared for in accordance with their wishes which is further supported by relevant documentation and regular exchange of information about all aspects of care .

Documents are mostly complete, well organised and stored securely and support the efficient management of the provision.

They are readily shared with the parents of minded children.

The childminder takes reasonable steps to ensure compliance with all conditions of registration however formal notification of the return of an adult child to live in the household had not been recorded.

The provision meets the need of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

This is the first report since registration.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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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 written parental permission is requested at the time of placement, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice in the future.
- Ensure Ofsted is notified of any changes in the persons over the age of 16 living in the household and they undergo checks including a criminal records check.

• Obtain written parental permission to take children on outings.

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