



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	105501
Inspection date	20 July 2005
Inspector	Anne Fox
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 has been registered since June 2001. She lives with her husband and 2 children aged 8 and 6 years in a house in the Cippenham area of Slough, within walking distance of local amenities which include shops, parks and schools. The whole of the premises is used for childminding. A garden is provided for outside play.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and holds a National Vocational Qualification level III in Childminding. She is registered to care for five children at any one time and is currently minding four children on a part time basis. The family do not have any pets.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are healthy, they develop good personal hygiene routines, washing their hands before eating snacks. The childminder maintains a very high standard of hygiene throughout her home and protects children from infection. The children enjoy a good range of physical activities both inside and outside of the home, they walk together to local parks and places of interest.

Children enjoy healthy snacks and cooked meals consisting of fresh fruit and vegetables. Children access fresh drinking water freely throughout the day. The childminder meets the children's individual dietary needs, she gathers information from the parents about their child's preferences and carefully plans the daily menu's considering each child's requirements.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are safe in this warm and welcoming child friendly environment where the childminder identifies hazards and removes them. Babies have a safe place to sit and play and crawl safely around the living room, the older children carefully play alongside the baby and pass him suitable toys. Children safely access a good range of toys which are clean and well maintained, they move around the well organised room freely making independent choices. Children are beginning to understand about safety outside of the home because the childminder explains to the children why they must hold her hand when out on walks. The childminder has a good knowledge of child protection issues and is familiar with the supporting documentation; her procedures help to maintain children's welfare

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children are enjoying and achieving in this environment, they are confident, well settled and secure. The children are beginning to learn their numbers and colours, they sing counting songs with the childminder. The children enjoy each other's company and show lots of interest and enthusiasm in the well planned activities. The children benefit from the childminder's close interaction. She plays with them, asks them appropriate questions and extends their learning opportunities. Children gain independence through activities away from the home, for example going on trips to the local park, library and activity centres. Babies needs are carefully considered and activities are adapted so that all children can take part.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are very settled and happy within this setting, the childminder knows them well and values them as individuals. Children who speak English as an additional language are spoken to in both their native language as well as English. Children increase their knowledge and

understanding of the wider world as they celebrate festivals such as the Chinese New Year and learn about other countries.

Children behave very well, they play harmoniously with their friends, sharing and taking turns, for example when playing hide and seek together they show great delight in being found by the childminder and laugh altogether. They respect each other and express concern if a child is unhappy. The childminder works closely with the parents, she shares verbal and written information with parents about their child. Parents comment that they are very happy with the care their child receives.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The provision meets the needs of all the children for whom it provides. Children are happy and content within this very well organised environment. Children move around the rooms easily and competently access the toys and resources. Children are kept safe and do not have close contact with unchecked persons, the childminder closely supervises them on trips outside of the home. The childminder meets the children's individual needs as she generally maintains accurate documentation and is efficient with her record keeping. However, she has not made a record of a child's existing injury.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection a written statement is now available for parents information providing them with details of the complaints procedure

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):

- keep a written record of all existing injuries

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