

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	120991
<b>Inspection date</b>	14 June 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Annie Williams
<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 outstanding. 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 1992. She lives with her husband and two adult children in the Horsell area of Woking, Surrey. 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 six children at any one time and is currently minding five children under five on different days, and two children over five after school. The childminder drives to school to collect children. The childminder attends the local parent/toddler group.

The childminder is a member of an approved childminding network and the National Childminding Association.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is outstanding.

The environment in which the children are cared for and play is clean. Careful thought is given to children's care on hot sunny days to protect children, for example, plenty of drinks, sun cream and hats are provided. A gazebo is also available to provide children with shade.

Children learn about excellent hygiene through effective practice introduced by the childminder; they wash their hands regularly and use disposable tissues. The spread of infection is reduced because the childminder has introduced individual towels and flannels, wears disposable gloves for cleaning up bodily fluids and she applies a sick child policy. Parents are given the option to bring children's toothbrushes and hair brushes if they wish to further support children's learning about personal hygiene and taking care of their needs.

Up to date training in food safety means that the childminder is aware of food requirements such as, food temperatures, storing, stock rotation, and re-heating food to support children's dietary requirements. Children learn the importance of a healthy diet because the childminder provides them with a range of excellent choices for example, pasta, meat, fish, fruit and vegetables. Furthermore children also learn about healthy food because they help the childminder feed, pick and prepare the food grown in the garden, such as, beans and tayberries. Together the children and the childminder talk about the effects of food such as, eating green tomatoes and cooking apples can make you have tummy ache. Breastfeeding mothers are accommodated so that they can either come and feed their babies during the day or provide expressed milk. Additionally the childminder has a written food policy and she provides parents with a written menu of the food she provides for children.

Up-to-date first aid training, documentation such as guidance on infection and notifiable diseases and parents' written permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment means that the childminder can act in the best interest of children in the event of a medical emergency. Excellent attention is given to the recording of accidents and medication keeping parents fully informed; records are made in a duplicate book and parents are given a copy.

The play room opens directly onto the garden and therefore children are able to play freely between inside and outside. Children receive daily opportunities to develop their large muscle skills and engage in rigorous physical exercise. As a result, they are learning to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children are allowed, encouraged and supported to take risks in a safe environment; for example, climbing to the top of the climbing frame or climbing up the tree at the bottom of the garden. The premises are secure to ensure children are unable to leave unsupervised and intruders cannot enter the house or garden. An excellent range of toys and equipment is available that covers all ages and stages of development; these are stored in transparent boxes and are clean and in good condition.

Risk assessments are undertaken everyday to identify and reduce risks to children, for example, the childminder checks the side gate is locked, outside toys are clean and that the garden is free from any fox faeces. Additionally safe procedures are put into place such as gates, socket

covers and finger guards. Fire drills are carried out periodically and fire detection equipment is accessible and maintained appropriately to keep children safe in the event of a fire.

Sensible precautions are provided for outings; buggies, reins and wrist lead when walking and appropriate car seats when in the car. Furthermore the childminder has thought carefully about possible accidents and emergencies so she takes child record forms on outings that include each child's photographs.

An excellent knowledge and understanding of child protection and the recording of any existing injuries means that children's welfare is safeguarded by the childminder.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children are eager, excited and motivated to learn because the childminder provides them with interesting activities.

Children explore and investigate using a range of resources such as wet pasta, corn flour and paint. In addition the childminder has introduced treasure basket to enable children to further explore natural objects with their senses adding different items such as an orange and a fir cone. Children explore numbers and counting through the daily routine. For example, they point out numerals in books and count their steps in the garden.

A clear love of books and stories is fostered amongst the children by making books part of the daily routine. Together children and the childminder sit on the floor and explore books; younger children help by turning pages in the story book 'A chair for baby bear'. The childminder talks and listens and asks children questions to make them think for example, 'how do you think baby bear felt when he went to the chair shop and he did not find a chair?' Their language is further supported by including them in discussions of likes and dislikes and the use of descriptive language. Suggestions made by the childminder extend children's language such as squashy and hard. Children are encouraged to recall past events; they look at the beautifully displayed photographs and chat about the previous day's events.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children are extremely well supported by the childminder who teaches the children to share and take turns. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement and as a result they are very well behaved. All children are welcome in the care of the childminder. Their cultures are successfully known because the childminder finds out from parents about their child and detailed records are maintained. Children find out about the local and wider world through visits in the local community such as, the library, the airport, toddler group, parks and canal walks. They become involved in growing projects to help them develop a sense of time and explore change. For example, children observe that the leaves have grown on the beans in the garden. Resources such as dolls, books, and discussions about differences help support children's learning of a diverse society. In addition the childminder makes full use of the toy library to further support children's learning.

Partnership with parents is exceptional. Parents are well informed about the setting through a wide range of policies and the information board in the hall. They are informed about their child's welfare and care by the many procedures carefully thought out by the childminder;

diaries are shared, contracts are in place and parental permission is obtained for all aspects of the childminder's service. Consequently, the childminder is able to act in the best interest of children to provide them with positive outcomes. With consent the childminder e-mails parents photographs of their children at play or special times such as, when out feeding the ducks. Parents' views are respected by the childminder who has set in place a system to evaluate parents' views of her childminding service through questionnaires related to the outcomes for children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is outstanding.

The childminder is able to show that all adults living in her home have undergone checks to establish their suitability through the Criminal Records Bureau checks. The childminder holds a NVQ level 3 in childcare and education. She also keeps up to date with all relevant changes and has attended many courses to help support her childminding service. As a result, the childminder knows how young children learn and develop. Additionally the childminder has set in place rigorous systems to monitor, review and evaluate her service to enable her to provide outstanding outcomes for children.

Children are settled and secure in the childminder's care. The daily routine is well balanced to meet the needs of the children and includes times for them to be active, quiet and experience the wider world through outings.

All the required documentation to support the childminding service and to promote the welfare and care of children is maintained to a high standard and stored securely. Much more information is provided to parents to keep them fully informed and to support the childminder's childcare, for example, written policies and a daily diary.

Parents are informed of conditions related to the childminder's registration because the certificate is prominently displayed. The attendance register is clear and well maintained showing that the childminder complies with the conditions of registration. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Following the last inspection two recommendations were made. These were to ensure all members of the household have proof that checks have been completed and to request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment and keep a written record, signed by parents, of existing injuries and medicines given to children. As a result, the childminder has ensured all members of the household have current criminal record bureau checks contributing to children's safety. Additionally the childminder has set in place an excellent system of recording medication and existing injuries by the use of a duplicate book. This contributes to positive outcomes to keep children safe and healthy. Finally the childminder has ensured that written permission is in place to enable her to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. Consequently, the childminder is able to act in the best interest of children in the event of a medical emergency.

## **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 outstanding. 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**

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

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)