

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	118811
<b>Inspection date</b>	02 August 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Amanda Gill
<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 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 August 1994. She lives with her husband and her two adult children in a house situated in a residential area of Rainham, in the London Borough of Havering, close to local shops and community resources and within walking distance of the local park. The whole of the premises is registered, the kitchen and ground floor play room are the main areas used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time. There are currently seven children from one to under eight years on roll. She is available to take children to and collect them from Rainham Village Primary School.

The family have a cat as a pet.

The childminder is a member of the National Child Minding Association.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is good.

Children play in a very clean and organised home. The childminder follows effective cleaning routines which are completed everyday when the children are not there. Children are protected from the risk of cross infection because they are encouraged to wash their hands with antibacterial hand soap. For instance, before and after meals and after stroking the family cat. Effective nappy changing procedures are in place which means that the potential for cross infection is minimised. Children's welfare is well promoted because the daily routine is based around their care needs, for example, to ensure the baby is able to have a regular nap.

Children's medical needs are effectively met. The childminder has a current first aid certificate and appropriate systems are in place to record accidents and medication. The childminder has devised suitable accident and emergency policies and procedures for the administration of medication, for medical emergencies and for dealing with children that are unwell. These have been discussed and agreed with parents and because the childminder has developed clear procedures to follow, the children's health is well promoted. However, accidents are not always recorded in a confidential manner.

Children are encouraged to learn about healthy eating because they receive nutritious freshly prepared meals, such as spaghetti bolognese and chilli con carni. Parents wishes and children's likes and dislikes are respected. Mealtimes are used as a social and relaxed time where children sit and talk to their peers and adults.

Children have daily opportunities to take part in physical activities and to get fresh air. They have access to a large secured garden where they enjoy using balls, skipping ropes and riding bikes. Children enjoy regular trips to the local parks as part of their regular routine. The children learn about the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle because the childminder reinforces it.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a secure and well maintained environment. The childminder provides an environment that is warm, friendly and welcoming. Children are at ease and well settled. Children are able to freely access the toys and resources from low level cupboards. Resources on offer are in good repair and the childminder regularly washes toys to ensure they are hygienic. The toys are stimulating, fun and provide sufficient challenge. The childminder carefully monitors and supervises children's choice of toys to make sure they are safe and appropriate for their age and stage of development.

Children learn about road safety and emergency evacuation procedures as part of their daily activities. Regular fire drills help children to become familiar with the procedures so that they learn how to leave the premises quickly and safely. Maintained smoke alarms are on both levels of the home and an accessible fire blanket is in the kitchen. The childminder identifies and minimises risks for children in the home. This means that they are able to move around safely, freely and independently. She gives high priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe and to maintaining safety outside of the home. For example, she reminds children how to play with outdoor toys safely to ensure accidents are minimised.

The children are well protected through the childminder's good knowledge of child protection issues and procedures. The childminder has attended child protection training and as a result is confident in her ability to deal with any child protection concerns. This promotes and safeguards children's welfare within the setting.

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

The provision is good.

Children are happy and have formed good relationships with the childminder. Children are confident speakers and they initiate discussions with adults, such as 'what's your favourite food?' Children relate well to each other and are comfortable in their environment. Children become independent as they choose between a variety of toys which appeal to all. Toys and resources are stored at low level and this enables children to make independent choices about their play. However, some toys are not suitable for the baby, so older children engage with these toys during the babies nap times.

The childminder uses the Birth to three matters framework to adapt activities to promote the younger children's learning. Children enjoy the daily routine, which combines quiet times with physical experiences. All children spend their time purposefully. They enjoy exploring a wide range of activities, such as art and craft activities and play dough, which contribute to their creativity. Children enjoy cooking activities. They show extreme excitement when helping the childminder to prepare lunch or during an activity that involves making pizza's from pita breads.

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

The provision is good.

The childminder provides a meaningful range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity. For example, the children talk excitedly about festivals they have celebrated together, for example, Diwali and trying different Indian sweets and making chapattis. The children have access to a selection of resources to help them learn about others in the community, this includes, books and puzzles to reflect cultures and dressing up clothes to depict different roles. The childminder has no experience of caring for children with a disability and/or difficulty, however, she demonstrates a positive and realistic attitude to meeting the needs of all children.

Children behave well and they are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder meets the children's needs well; they follow their normal daily routine as discussed with parents. Children show care and concern for each other, and play together harmoniously. Children make themselves at home, confidently deciding what to do. They approach the childminder for help and the childminder is very responsive to their needs and is consistent with her approach to dealing with unwanted behaviour. Strategies are agreed with parents and include distraction, time out and reinforcement of positive language when explaining things to children. The children are encouraged to behave well because the childminder speaks calmly to the children giving lots of praise and encouragement.

The childminder works closely with parents to ensure continuity of care. The childminder spends time with parents at the end of each day sharing information about children's progress. The childminder has devised clear and effective procedures and policies for the safe management of the provision. These are shared with parents who sign to agree each policy and practices are reflective of these. This includes a complaints procedure which informs parents of how to raise a complaint, however, there is no system in place to record/log complaints for future reference.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for by a very motivated and committed childminder who cares for them in a warm, well organised and child friendly environment. The organisation of the day allows children to participate in both planned and free activities. Since registration the childminder has undertaken a number of training courses, for example, behaviour management and diversity resource awareness and plans to attend more training in the future. This ensures she is able to provide appropriate care for the children she looks after.

Children are kept safe and their welfare is effectively safeguarded by the childminder's clear understanding of the National Standards and required policies and procedures are implemented. Required documentation is in place, well organised and readily available for inspection. However, the registration certificate is kept in a file and not displayed for parents to see. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the previous childminder inspection, the childminder was asked to ensure that children's emergency contact telephone number's were carried when on outings.

The childminder has made effective progress in this area. The childminder takes a notebook with all emergency contact details on all outings or trips away from the home. The childminder has also programmed all of the emergency contact numbers into her mobile phone. The childminder has a secure understanding of children's safety and promotes their welfare when at home or away from the childminding premises.

## **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 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):

- implement a system for recording complaints
- ensure that registration certificate is displayed on premises at all times

- ensure that accidents and incidents to children are recorded in a confidential manner

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)