

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY347770
Inspection date	05 September 2007
Inspector	Clare Stone
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 2007. She lives with her husband and school age daughter in the Kennington area of Ashford. All areas of the premises are used for childminding except for the main bedroom. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time. At the time of the inspection there are two children on roll. School, pre-school, toddler group, shops and parks are nearby. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean home. They are learning the importance of good hygiene practices. All children, even the youngest, are learning from a young age why it is important to wash their hands before meals and after playing. This reduces the risk of cross infection. Children are kept safe from infection and diseases due to the childminders clear policy not to care for children if they are unwell. The childminder is flexible in her approach to meal times and is happy for parents to provide meals if they wish. This ensures children individual dietary

requirements are being met. Older children can help themselves to drinks, and the younger children have non spill cups so they can have a drink when they want. Children enjoy a wide range of activities which contribute to their good health. They regularly go on walks, play in the garden and visit the local park. This also enables children to learn that physical play is an important part of their well being.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder's home is warm and welcoming. This helps children feel secure and build on their confidence. Children's safety is promoted through regular visual risk assessments and the evaluation of these practices. This ensures children are cared for in a safe, child friendly and well organised environment. There is plenty of space for children to move around freely, allowing them to take risks. There is a wide range of equipment available and the childminder is aware not to leave small parts around that could prove dangerous to smaller children. All resources are checked for damage regularly and replaced if broken. The risk of harm to children is minimised due to the childminder's awareness of child protection issues.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy, relaxed and confident. They approach the childminder for support indicating good relationships are being built. The childminder is warm and affectionate making the children feel comfortable and valued. The childminder encourages children to do things for themselves and gives good support when children are learning new skills. This also helps build on the children's independence. Although, the children have lots of toys to choose from. This is not apparent when the children first arrive in the morning. Toys and equipment are in good condition and are interesting, colourful and educational. At the time of the inspection children enjoyed playing with shake and rattle toys. They also had access to a trolley full of bricks which they took great delight in pushing up and down the front room. The childminder is keen to increase her knowledge in this area and is booked to attend some training in the near future.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have access to a range of resources that show positive images of people and cultures. This helps them to learn about each other and embrace their differences. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement. This helps build their self esteem and confidence. For example, a child was pushing round a wooden trolley and she was told how well she was doing and received lots of claps. The childminder has effective, written behaviour management strategies which are agreed and shared with the parents. Children play freely and are learning right from wrong. Information about the children and what has happened in the day is shared at the end of each day. This ensures continuity of care for the children. The childminder does not have any children on roll with learning difficulties, but has a positive attitude on how she would support and assist all parents and children in her care.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder has a good knowledge of the National Standards. She is motivated in keeping her childcare knowledge up to date by attending current training, such as child protection and the Early Years Foundation Stage. This is reflected in the level of care and attention provided to the children. All regulation documentation is in place and well maintained. The childminder keeps policies and all information is shared with parent's. The childminder plans her time effectively to ensure the children have her support and guidance if needed. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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.

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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 more resources are in place when children arrive

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