

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY349001
Inspection date 05 September 2007
Inspector Michele, Karen Beasley

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 partner and their school age child, in a house in Waterlooville. Minded children use the ground floor of the property. There are grassed, paved and barked areas in the rear garden available for outside play. The family have dogs and cats.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time. The childminder is currently minding one children under two years, one day a week. 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 stay healthy because the childminder implements effective health and hygiene policies and procedures to promote their hygiene and prevent the spread of infection. For example, she wipes the children's hands with individual flannels before and after meal times. She uses anti bacterial wipes before and after changing children's nappies and disinfects the changing

mat after use. Children's health is well maintained and written information is obtained from parents regarding children's medical history, allergies and special dietary requirements. However, written permission is not in place for emergency medical treatment, consequently this does not ensure the children's welfare in the event of an emergency. The childminder has a valid first aid certificate and a first aid kit. She is aware to record accidents and the administration of medication appropriately ensuring children remain healthy.

Parents can supply their own child's meals. However, the childminder has a flexible approach to providing a range of finger foods such as crusty bread with butter and pieces of fresh fruit such as apple and pear. She works closely with parents to ensure the children's individual needs are being met and the parents wishes are being respected at all times.

Children are comfortable and safe because the childminder provides a quiet, calm atmosphere, she monitors children responsibly while they sleep to ensure their safety. The childminder ensures children have plenty of fresh air and exercise as she includes regular visits to local parks and the swimming pool during the week.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from an extremely safe and secure environment as the childminder effectively identifies and addresses potential hazards. For example, stairgates and socket covers are in place to ensure children's safety. There are good arrangements for the supervision and safety of children such as checking them frequently while they are asleep. Children are securely strapped in properly whilst sitting in highchairs. They feel very safe and are extremely settled due to the high levels of support and supervision provided by the childminder.

Children freely access a vast array of suitable and safe play materials and resources, developing their independence and encouraging them to make their own choices about their play. Children are well protected and their safety is promoted because the childminder has a good understanding of her role with regard to child protection. She ensures detailed policies and procedures are implemented effectively in practice, including arrangements for the collection of children, and has a secure knowledge of child protection procedures and how to follow these where concerns are raised.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy. They smile throughout activities, such as trying to grasp a stacking cup that has been rolled between their legs. The childminder interacts with the children very well, talking to them all the time, making eye contact, playing at their level and showing affection. Babies enjoy experimenting and exploring toys with their hands and feet. The childminder praises and encourages the children at all times helping them to learn different skills, such as holding the handles on their drinks beakers.

The childminder has a good understanding of children's developmental needs. She participates fully during activities, encouraging children to join in. Children have opportunities to develop a good range of skills and progress well in all areas in a stimulating and interesting environment. Children benefit from the childminder's good support. She is affectionate and consistent as she organises the routines to ensure all children have the opportunity for one-to-one activities such as going swimming.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Younger children's attachment and security needs are recognised and the childminder ensures that the baby is with her at all times to meet his emotional needs. Children thrive as they initiate their own learning such as pushing the buttons on an electronic walker to hear the different sounds. Their behaviour is good as the childminder praises and promotes their self esteem at all times.

The childminder's interaction with children is good and she has a knowledge of their individual needs, likes and interests, enabling each child to reach their full potential whilst in her care. Presently there are no minded children with special educational needs. Through discussion the childminder was able to demonstrate a clear understanding of her responsibilities. She would be happy to liaise with other agencies and would always work closely with the parents to meet the individual needs of the children.

All children benefit from positive working relationships between the childminder and their parents. Links are in place between home and the setting; for example, through informal discussions at the beginning and end of the day. Parents are well informed about the childminder's service through the childminder's detailed portfolio, which includes training certificates, policies and procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children receive good quality care enabling them to thrive and achieve because the childminder promotes good outcomes for children. Most policies and procedures are in place including a complaints log and procedure. However, full names of the children are not being recorded in the attendance register. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Children benefit greatly from the calmness of the childminder. She makes good use of her time to ensure all children receive the individual attention they need and has an awareness of the Birth to three framework to ensure they are provided with a good range of play experiences matched to their individual learning needs and interests. The childminder ensures children receive maximum benefits from their time in her care.

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.

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):

- ensure the full names of children are recorded in the attendance register
- obtain written parental permission for emergency medical treatment.

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