

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	550064
<b>Inspection date</b>	23 October 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Ann Coggin
<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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in August 2001. She lives with her husband and three children aged 15, 12 and eight in the Oakerside Park area of Peterlee. All of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is a rear garden available for outdoor play. The family pets are two dogs.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time but has not cared for any since September 2005.

No children on roll.

When a provider does not have children on roll at the time of the inspection, inspection judgements are based on evidence gathered from discussions with the provider and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation.

As there are no children on roll, the quality of the provision cannot be judged better than satisfactory because there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is inadequate.

The childminder has a sound understanding of suitable procedures to promote children's good health, by ensuring that positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection. However, she has not renewed her first aid certificate. This means a requirement of registration has not been met and her knowledge of first aid is not up to date. (National Standard 7: Health)

The childminder ensures that food and drink for children should be adequate, properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements. (National Standard 8: Food and drink)

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The premises are safe, secure and include the necessary facilities for children. The childminder demonstrates an awareness of how to ensure the environment is made welcoming to children. (National Standard 4: Physical environment)

The furniture, equipment and toys are safe and appropriate for the needs of children. (National Standard 5: Equipment)

The childminder understands how to promote children's safety and take precautions to prevent accidents. (National Standard 6: Safety)

The childminder has a sound knowledge of child protection procedures approved by the Local Safeguarding Children Board and is aware of their responsibility to protect the welfare of the child. (National Standard 13: Child Protection)

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has a satisfactory knowledge of how individual children develop and learn. (Standard 3: Care, learning and play)

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has an appropriate knowledge and awareness of the importance of treating each child with equal respect and concern. (National Standard 9: Equal opportunities)

She is aware that some children may have learning difficulties or disabilities, and understands the importance of working in partnership with parents and with other professionals to promote the welfare and development of the child. (National Standard 10: Special needs)

The childminder shows a willingness and commitment to working with parents to manage children's behaviour in a consistent way which promotes the child's welfare and development. (National Standard 11: Behaviour)

She has a satisfactory understanding of the need to develop a strong partnership with parents, taking into account their differing needs. (National Standard 12: Working in partnership with parents and carers)

### **Organisation**

The organisation is inadequate.

The childminder is aware of the duty to ensure that other people living or working on the premises are suitable to be in contact with children. However, she has not renewed her first aid certificate. This means a requirement of registration has not been met and her knowledge of first aid is not up to date. (National Standard 1: Suitable person)

She understands the importance of working within the constraints of the condition of registration relating to number of children; and of organising space and resources to best meet the needs of the children. (National Standard 2: Organisation)

The childminder has a sound awareness of the records to be kept and the importance of these. (National Standard 14: Documentation)

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the provider was asked to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice and ensure that there is a suitable range of toys and activities to meet the developmental needs of children under school age if care is provided for them. The childminder has not cared for children since her last inspection but stated she would ensure appropriate resources would be made available for all children. She was also asked to improve fire safety precautions by fitting a smoke alarm on the first floor and maintaining it in working order. This has not been fitted.

### **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 have procedures for dealing with concerns and complaints from parents and to keep a record of complaints and their outcome.

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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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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)