



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	307279
<b>Inspection date</b>	18 August 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Glynis Margaret Kite

<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 has been registered since 1998. She lives with her husband and two adult children. They live in the Eccles area of Salford. All areas of the property are used for childminding purposes. There is a fully enclosed back garden available for outside play. The local area offers a range of shops, parks, a library, playgroups and parent/toddler groups, all within walking distance of the premises. The family have a dog, 2 rabbits and gold fish.

The childminder is registered for a maximum of six children at any one time. She currently has five children on the register. Children attend a variety of full and part

time places.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She is also the support childminder for her area. The childminder holds an NVQ level 3 qualification in childcare and has successfully completed the National Childminding Association Quality First award.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children thrive in this warm and loving environment, because the childminder constantly updates her knowledge with regard to new initiatives and works in partnership with parents. The childminder's practice is based on highly effective policies and procedures, which promote the physical, nutritional and health needs of children in her care. Consistent daily routines ensure children develop excellent knowledge and understanding of good hygiene practice. Children are becoming increasingly independent as they take more responsibility for their personal care needs.

Children benefit from healthy, balanced meals and snacks. The childminder consults parents and children about their food preferences and dietary requirements. She promotes healthy eating well through actively seeking out information and creating interesting activities involving food that are highly effective in helping children to learn about healthy eating in a fun way. The children learn from each other as they sit and eat together every day. This routine promotes social interaction, where children are encouraged to talk about different types of foods and their individual preferences. Older children help themselves to water from the water machine and the younger children are supplied with drinks throughout the day.

Children develop excellent physical skills as they freely access a range of toys and equipment both indoors and outdoors. The childminder is very skilled in providing toys and equipment suitable to the ages of the children in her care. She has good knowledge of the Birth to three matters framework and has developed planning for younger children around this. As a result babies and toddlers are becoming more confident and explore their surroundings with ease.

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

The provision is outstanding.

The childminder promotes the safety of children well. She actively implements risk assessment procedures to reduce potential hazards to children. The children are actively involved in routine fire drills, as a result children respond positively during practice. The childminder recognises the need for children to have freedom to explore, while remaining safe, and helps them to do this by being vigilant and offering close supervision. Children benefit from the freedom to explore as they learn about potential hazards and how to protect themselves.

Children benefit from the considerable range of toys and equipment made available to them. They make choices and initiate their own play. Children engage in favourite activities and play well together. They relish the opportunity to make their own toys and play equipment. For example, musical instruments and badges that represent family members and raise awareness of disability and other cultures. The majority of toys and resources are easily accessible within the designated play room.

All children are well protected because the childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the local Area Child Protection committee procedures. She is committed to promoting the welfare of children in her care.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children enjoy being with the childminder. They make excellent progress because they are well supported and have access to many first hand experiences. They have very good relationships with the childminder and each other. The childminder is very skilled and plans appropriate activities for the children in her care. As a result children engage in highly stimulating and purposeful play.

The childminder dedicates much time to listening and talking to children, as a result children feel valued and fully included. She is highly effective in meeting their individual needs, because of this children are confident and gain new skills. Children make decisions about what they want to play with and interact well with each other and the childminder.

Children have very good opportunities to develop early language and mathematical understanding, through the many routine activities provided. Young children enjoy repetition and stimulating sensory experiences indoors and out. All children benefit from play opportunities within the wider community, where they begin to make sense of the world.

Children are encouraged and supported with regard to expressing themselves through a range of creative activities. Children are inquisitive and have good imaginative/creative skills, which they demonstrate through dressing up, creating pictures and musical activities.

The childminder seeks information about the children from parents about their likes/dislikes and then introduces new toys, activities and opportunities. Children benefit from the inspiring and challenging environment, which offers lots of fun.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children benefit from the homely environment created by the childminder and members of her family. The playroom is warm and welcoming and fully equipped with everything the children need. Children learn about their local community and wider world through a range of topics and activities. All children are fully included and enjoy

resources that reflect the diverse community.

The childminder works closely with parents to provide continuity of care for the children. As a result children respond well to the rules and boundaries within the childminder's home. Children play well together and are kind and caring towards each other. The childminder is skilled in distracting children from potential disruptive situations and guiding them towards purposeful play. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement for good behaviour, as a result they are happy and confident.

The positive relationships formed between parents and childminder helps children to feel secure. The childminder provides continuity of care for children as she exchanges a wealth of information with parents and keeps written details. Children benefit greatly from the active role their parents take in a variety of topics and projects implemented by the childminder. As a result children's needs are catered for well.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is outstanding.

Children make very good progress in a setting which is well organised and child friendly. The childminder is highly effective in planning and organising the daily routines for children. She ensures the play space is safe and interesting, which enables children to move around freely.

Excellent record keeping ensures children's details are up to date and therefore their individual needs met. Well written policies and procedures are consistently applied. The childminder is highly motivated and committed to providing good quality care for children. She is able to do this as she attends further training and keeps up to date with new initiatives with regard to the health and well being of children in her care.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

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

The childminder has updated her records to include the contact details for Ofsted. As a result the overall welfare of children is further protected.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **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
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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 *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)