

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	257452
Inspection date	20 November 2007
Inspector	Melanie Calway
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 outstanding. 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 1995. She lives with her husband and one adult son, who is also registered as her assistant, in Spalding, in Lincolnshire. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder walks and drives to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children and takes them to a local toddler group, a childminding group, a music group and on walks to feed the ducks and to the park.

The childminder is registered to care for six children at any one time and for seven, when she works with an assistant, and is currently minding five children, two of whom attend on a full-time basis.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and a committee member of the Lincolnshire County Association and the East Midlands Regional Committee.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children's health is promoted very well because there are excellent hygiene procedures in place. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet and so are learning about good hygiene through the daily routine. A poster above the sink reminds children about how to wash their hands. Even the youngest children are encouraged to wash their hands so they are learning very early on about the benefits of good hygiene. The downstairs toilet is easily accessible so children can use it independently. Every child has their own flannel and towel to minimise the risk of cross-infection. These are kept in the children's personal boxes and older children can hang them on their labelled pegs. Towels, which have been used, are washed daily to maintain effective hygiene. There is an area for changing nappies near to the downstairs toilet with all the necessary supplies close at hand and nappies are dealt with hygienically and disposed of appropriately. The house is clean and well maintained and there are effective systems in place for the regular cleaning of toys. Policies and documentation relating to children's health are clear, detailed and comprehensive.

Children's medical needs are met very well as the childminder has a current first aid qualification and keeps a first aid kit in the cloak room area so that she can deal with minor accidents and injuries appropriately. An accurate record of all accidents is maintained. There is a system for recording the administration of medicines, which is completed correctly. The childminder obtains information from parents on caring for children's medical needs, such as allergies. Consent has been obtained from parents to seek emergency treatment or advice so that she can seek help in the event of an emergency and she has a detailed emergency plan. Children are protected from the risk of infection as the childminder has a sickness policy which contains the list of communicable diseases as well as clear guidelines on the procedures for administering

