

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	122953
Inspection date	20 December 2007
Inspector	Lorna Lorraine Hall

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 satisfactory. 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 1980. She lives with one of her adult children in a first floor flat in Wandsworth near Clapham Junction. The lounge and one bedroom of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There is a communal garden for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently caring for three children a six month old, a five year old and a ten year old. The childminder attends the local play group. The family has a cat.

The childminder is a member of the local childminding group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is promoted because they enjoy a healthy diet that includes freshly prepared food such as spaghetti bolognaise. Parents provide food for babies who are on bottle or in the

early stage of weaning. Suitable provision is made to ensure that food is stored at the correct temperature.

Some measures are in place to minimise the spread of infection and parents receive information about the care and exclusion of children who are ill. As an extra measure the childminder wears gloves when changing the children's nappy. However, the arrangement for the cat to use the litter tray does not promote good hygiene as the tray is stored in the bathroom that the children use.

Accidents to the children are dealt with appropriately because the childminder has up to date first aid training. However, some of the items in the first aid box are out of date and the childminder does not have permission to seek advice or treatment in the absence of parents. This means that the childminder does not have sufficient information to act in the children's best interest in an emergency.

Children enjoy daily opportunities to enjoy the fresh air and participate in outdoor play suitable to promote their physical development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an organised environment where space is organised to allow babies to move around in a baby walker. Most of the activities are laid out on the floor and older children sit on the floor and complete puzzles and other games such as connect four. Suitable covering is provided so the children can enjoy painting activities.

Children make progress in their learning because they have access to suitable learning resources, for example, babies play with brightly coloured toys that make different noises. They closely observe brightly coloured rain maker toy. Children contribute to their learning as they make choices in their play, for example, they ask for favourite toys.

The childminder takes positive steps to promote safety within the home and on outings. She has permission from parents to take children on public transport. The childminder has attended fire safety training and within the home she ensures that she complies with safety recommendations. During discussion, she identifies areas that could be used in an emergency evacuation but she has not practised the procedure with the children. Children learn about personal safety on outings. As an extra safety measure that childminder carries the children's details with her on outings.

The children's welfare is promoted because the childminder has a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She has information about who to contact to report concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's enjoying and achieving is gained because the childminder knows the children well and provide support for them to engage in a variety of activities. Learning resources are regularly changed to keep the children interested and challenged appropriately. Babies enjoy a warm relationship with the childminder through lots of cuddles and eye contact.

Their learning is promoted because the childminder talks to them about what they are doing, for example, she names the colour of the different toys during play. And use positional language such as forward.

Visit to the toddler group provides meaningful opportunities for the children to socialise with their peers and to enjoy play on a large scale.

Parents receive verbal information about their child's routine throughout the day.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about other cultures because they enjoy a diet which incorporates food from around the world. Resources such as books and puzzles and the childminder ability to talk to them also promote their understanding of equality of opportunity and diversities.

The childminder has experience of caring for children and families who have learning difficulties. She is aware of the implication the care of such families would have.

Children are generally well behaved because appropriate methods are in place to manage their behaviour appropriately. The childminder has attended appropriate training.

The childminder says that she has a good relationship with the parents of the minded children. Parents are asked to read and sign detailed contract and to provide information about themselves and their child to ensure appropriate care. However, one of the contracts needs updating in line with new business arrangements. Time is made at the end or beginning of the day to discuss the days routine with parents. The childminder has the correct information about Ofsted's complaint procedures to share with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children health, safety, enjoying and achieving enables them to make a positive contribution to their learning. The day is organised to enable the childminder to spend maximum time with them. During discussion, she states that the needs of the children dictate how the day is organised.

Since the last inspection the childminder has attended suitable and appropriate courses to enhance her ability to care for children.

The childminder is a member of the local childminding group and regularly meets up with other childminder's to discuss work practise and to keep abreast of changes in her field of work.

Written information on the children is generally up to date. However, most of the recommendations made at this inspection related to paper work.

The provider meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder agreed to meet five recommendations, the recommendations related to paper work, two of the recommendations have not been met consequently new recommendations were made at inspection.

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 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 satisfactory. 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 cat litter tray is inaccessible to the children
- obtain permission from parents to seek emergency medical treatment or advise
- practise the evacuation procedures with the children
- ensure information on written agreement with parents is up to date

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