



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY241124
<b>Inspection date</b>	09 September 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Lynn Morris

<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 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 2002. She lives with her husband and 2 children aged 13 in Coventry, West Midlands. The whole ground floor upstairs bathroom and front bedroom of the childminder's house are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 6 children at any one time and currently cares for 5 under 5, part time or full days and 1 over 5 after school. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends a toddler group on a regular basis. The family have 1 dog.

The childminder is a member of National Childminding Association (NCMA) .

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children take part in satisfactory activities, which contribute to their health. They play on swings and slides at local parks and use wheeled toys, a slide and see-saw in the childminder's garden to help them develop control. They attend groups with the childminder where they take part in physical activities.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean home where they learn about the importance of hygiene and personal care. They adequately wash their hands using anti-bacterial soap, after using the toilet, after playing and before eating food. Children help themselves to wipes to keep their hands clean.

Children have a range of hot and cold meals provided by their parents and stored by the childminder in the fridge. However, without a fridge thermometer the childminder does not know if food is being kept at a safe temperature before it is required for children's meals. Children have fresh fruit and biscuits for snacks and set routines for snacks and meals ensure that children have regular drinks. They can take their cup from the table for a drink at anytime. Children's allergies, dietary needs and parents wishes are adequately considered when offering snacks and drinks.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a home where most risks have been identified and addressed. However, children are able to access plug sockets, which are not fitted with covers in several areas of the home. Children move around the home independently, using the lounge and conservatory for play activities. They play confidently with toys of good quality, which are rotated by the childminder to satisfactorily maintain children's interest. Children adequately learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn how to cross the road and how to use the slide in the garden safely by not climbing up the slide.

Children's safety is adequately met through the childminder's procedures and documentation. For example, she holds a current first aid certificate and all documentation to take children out in the car is up to date. Children are protected from risk of harm or abuse by the childminder's satisfactory knowledge of local child protection procedures.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children settle well in the childminders home. They make good relationships with the childminder. They attend a toddler group outside of the home with the childminder, where they learn to socialise with other children and try different activities such as art and craft activities. They benefit from a satisfactory range of learning and play opportunities in the childminder's home. For example, they count objects, practise threading, complete jigsaws and play outside in the garden, with appropriate support from the childminder.

Children become independent as they choose from toys and equipment, which are easily accessed in the lounge and conservatory and are changed frequently to keep children's interest. They play purposefully and are happy and contented. Children's emerging language is developing satisfactorily. They learn new words and talk about what they are doing during their play.

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

The provision is good.

Children choose from a good range of resources, which include toys and books to develop positive understanding of different cultures and people with disabilities. Children with special needs receive sound support. They benefit from activities, which help them to develop and integrate into everyday play. For example, a physiotherapist visits the childminder's home. The exercises and equipment provided support children's development well and a range of activities help children develop muscle control. Children in the home learn about disability in a positive way and as a result develop good attitudes towards disability and help and support each other. Children play with dolls and figures representative of different cultures and abilities.

Children learn to play together and how to respect each others feelings. They know the childminder's expectations of good behaviour and they take turns and share well. They benefit from the childminder's consistent management of their behaviour.

Children's progress and development is communicated to parents through good daily verbal exchanges. Children's needs are considered well and met by the childminder taking an active part in making appointments, for example with the physiotherapist. Parents have reported their satisfaction with their children's care through written references, which detail the good level of service and benefits that their children receive.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are settled and happy in the childminder's home. Children play in rooms downstairs and make use of the space and toys available in the garden. They make choices of play and use accessible toys and resources developing confidence and self esteem. Information regularly exchanged with parents helps to make sure that care meets their wishes and they know about their children's progress.

Records kept contribute to appropriate care and provision for children's welfare. Confidentiality is maintained and children's personal information is kept secure. Overall the childminder meets the needs of the children she cares for.

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

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to develop resources that reflect positive images of disability. A range of dolls, books and figures, which reflect disability are available and are used in everyday play by the children, helping them to develop a positive attitude towards disability. This contributes towards children making a positive contribution.

### **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 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):

- make sure that all plug sockets accessible to children are fitted with safety covers.

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)