

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY270912
Inspection date	07 March 2008
Inspector	Chris Mackinnon

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 first registered in 2004. She lives with her husband and their school age son in the Saltdean area of Brighton & Hove. Most of the ground floor is used for childminding. The childminder is registered to care for up to three children under eight years and is currently providing after school care to children aged five and older. The childminder makes regular outings to nearby parks and children's play areas.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder's has an organised approach to hygiene and is aware of the need to protect children from illness and infection. Children are encouraged to keep themselves clean and be tidy. Children have healthy snacks and suitable drinks are provided. The childminder has clearly organised medication and accident records in place. Parents are regularly provided with information on their children's care and progress. An organised range of physical activities and regular outdoor play, supports children's healthy development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept safe and are guided by the childminder to play together safely. An organised range of safety measures are in place within the childminder's home, including suitable fire safety precautions. The childminder has an appropriate range of play materials for children, including books, role-play resources and art-crafts materials. The childminder has attended training and is aware of the need to safeguard children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children explore resources and play happily in an appropriately prepared play environment. Children have a range of activities and enjoy art-crafts, assembly toys and computer games. The childminder encourages children's interest in books, but the range of activities provided to support children's learning is limited. The childminder takes a positive interest in individual children's progress, and children's physical development is also soundly supported with regular outdoor activities.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are made welcome and enjoy being in the childminder's home. Children's behaviour is positively managed and children are encouraged to play and share resources appropriately. A selection of other culture play materials are in place and the childminder is open to caring for children with disabilities. Parents have regular up-dates on their children's progress, but the childminder's written policies and practice guidance are not easily accessible to parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children access suitably prepared play areas within the childminder's home and an appropriate range of activities is provided. An organised selection of play materials are also in place to interest children and regular outings are made to local play areas. The childminder's record keeping is up-to-date and an appropriate range of guidance documents support her practice. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the childminder has up-dated safety, revised record keeping and widened the range of agreements with parents, providing improved outcomes for children in Staying Safe, Organisation and Positive Contribution.

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

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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 further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- provide a wider range of planned activities to support children's learning
- ensure all written policy guidance and information for parents is easily accessible

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