

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	138049
Inspection date	30 October 2007
Inspector	Helen Deegan
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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since 1992. She lives with her family in Raynes Park in the London Borough of Merton. Her home is within walking distance of local shops, parks and schools. She is not currently caring for any children. Minded children have access to the whole of the ground floor, including the enclosed back garden. When working she regularly attends local toddler groups and drop in centres.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a clean, well maintained premises. Through discussion she demonstrates an appropriate understanding of how children's good health is promoted. She has systems in place to gather information from parents regarding medical needs, dietary requirements and allergies. She describes how children would learn about their personal hygiene through their normal daily routines and how they are protected from cross infection by using individual paper

towels to dry their hands. She describes appropriate ways to ensure that children can always access fresh drinking water. She requests that parents provide food for their children.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has taken appropriate steps to ensure that risks in and outside her home have been minimised so that children can play safely. She provides a warm, welcoming environment and has a satisfactory range of toys and equipment which is stored on the floor and in a low cupboard so that children could easily access it.

Through discussion the childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the indicators of abuse and the procedure to follow should a concern about a child arise. This ensures that children's welfare would be suitably protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder describes an appropriate range of play activities that she would provide to ensure that children could play happily and develop in all areas. She talks about encouraging children's mathematical understanding by incorporating counting and simple calculation into every day play situations. She also explains how children can use their imagination when playing with the dressing up toys, small world equipment and craft activities. The impact of these on the children's development is not clear as there are no records of what children can do.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

From discussion the childminder demonstrates a good understanding of equal opportunities and describes the positive ways that she promotes it within her practice. She has a range of toys which reflect different, race, culture and disability so that children can gain an awareness of diversity.

She has systems in place to obtain information about children's individual needs from their parents and describes appropriate steps to take in the event of a concern arising about a child's development. She uses a daily diary to share information with parents about their children's progress.

The childminder showed a sound knowledge of behaviour management, giving good examples of how she would approach a variety of situations for children of different ages.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has the required record keeping systems in place. She does not have information readily available for parents which informs them how they can make a complaint. She has a current first aid certificate and has attended additional training to update and improve her knowledge. She has achieved a level 3 qualification in Extending Childminding Practice (ECP). Overall evidence suggests that the provision would meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to obtain parents consent to seek emergency medical treatment and administer medication, to ensure that the first aid kit contains appropriate contents and to provide positive reflection of disability within her play equipment. Written parents consent is now in place for the seeking of emergency medical treatment and to administer medication. The childminder has obtained some good quality books which positively depict children with a range of disabilities and her first aid kit now contains appropriate items.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required either 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):

- ensure that information on how to make a complaint is made available to parents.

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