

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	138635
Inspection date	28 February 2008
Inspector	Keriann Belcher
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 inadequate – notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered in 1995.

The childminder lives with her husband and two adult children and mother in a house in Ickenham in the London Borough of Hillingdon.

The ground floor of the home is used for childminding purposes; children have access to the first floor toilet and bathroom. There is a rear enclosed garden available for outdoor play and contains a large fenced off swimming pool. Children are able to use the pool with written permission from parents and with close supervision from the childminder.

The childminder is registered to care for six children at any one time. She is currently caring for seven children under eight years. Children attend on a full and part-time basis. No children were present at the inspection.

The family have no pets.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children's health and well-being could be compromised as the childminder does not hold a valid first aid certificate. The childminder has established systems in place to seek prior written parental permission to administer medication. However, there is not a clear system to record medication when administered. Parental permission has not been sought from all parents to obtain emergency treatment.

The childminder cares for children in a clean and well maintained home. She supports children to adopt effective personal hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before meals. Child use paper towels in the bathroom, which minimises the spread of infection.

The childminder shows a clear understanding of the importance of a healthy, balanced diet with lots of fresh foods. In discussion, the childminder shows that she respects parent's wishes regarding food given to children.

The childminder demonstrated a clear awareness of the importance of healthy exercise for children. She regularly plans visits to the local parks and children have opportunities to play in the well equipped garden; this means they have good opportunity to develop physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder takes steps to ensure that the areas used by children are safe. For example, she has a stair gate and checks that the smoke alarms are in working order. However, the fire blanket in the kitchen is not positioned according to the manufactures instructions. The childminder has equipment to provide for the needs of children. For example, a travel cot and age appropriate play items.

Through discussion, the childminder demonstrated that she safeguards children's welfare. She has a clear knowledge of the possible signs and symptoms of abuse. The childminder is aware of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Through discussion, the childminder demonstrated that children engage in a satisfactory range of play activities. She described how children have use of the garden in good weather or walks to feed the ducks. A suitable range of interesting activities, such as board games, art and craft and imaginative play equipment enable children to progress in all areas of their development. Children have access to a good range of books and visit the library which promotes their language and literacy skills. The childminder demonstrated that children's mathematical thinking is encouraged through everyday activities as they learn to recognise the numbers on the buses or sort the toy cars into different colours.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrated a commitment to working in partnership with parents to promote children's welfare. Through discussion, the childminder demonstrated that she has a positive approach to managing children's behaviour. She talks to them about the behaviour she expects in her home and has guidelines for children to respect.

Children gain an understanding of the world around them. The childminder provides them with a range of books and dolls which show positive images of differences. The childminder demonstrated how she talks to children about each others similarities and differences, which provides them of an understanding of the wider world.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children's health is not promoted as she has failed to maintain a valid first aid certificate. This is a breach of the overarching criteria for National Standards 1, Suitable Person which states that the childminder must maintain a current first aid certificate. The childminder has some documentation in place, however, she does not ensure that the relevant records are maintained on all children.

The childminder has suitable arrangements to protect children from persons who are not vetted. She ensures that the required adult child ratio is maintained.

The childminder does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to ensure the actual times that the children are present at the setting are recorded, and that the children's personal information is recorded in full and includes their date of birth. A register of children's attendance is kept updated and the children's information forms include all the relevant details. The childminder was also asked to gain further knowledge of the methods of reporting allegations of child abuse. She has familiarised herself with the Local Authority Safeguarding procedures to follow. This means the children's safety and well-being.

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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- obtain and maintain a first aid certificate for infants and young children.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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