



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	110690
<b>Inspection date</b>	10 October 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Lynne Elizabeth Lewington

<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 good. 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 1998. She lives with her husband and adult daughter in a 4 bedroom house in Tadley, Hampshire. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play at the front of the property. Local parks, shops and schools are within easy walking distance.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 6 children under 8 years at any one time. There are currently 7 children on roll; older children are also cared for. The childminder collects and takes children to the local primary school. She attends

local parent and toddler groups.

The childminder supports children with special educational needs. She is a qualified nursery nurse who holds a National Nursery Examining Board (NNEB) diploma and is a member of the National childminding association (NCMA).

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children's good health is encouraged by access to suitable nourishment, good opportunity for physical exercise and clear sensible health measures.

Children begin to learn about healthy eating as they are offered healthy snacks and drinks. Parents provide children's meals enabling children to experience continuity in their diet. The childminder is happy to share her knowledge with parents regarding suitable food for developing children.

Each day the children follow a simple flexible routine which ensures they have adequate rest, food and activity. Young children have good opportunities to develop their walking skills in the large comfortable lounge. They can pull themselves to standing and move around the furniture safely. Appropriate toys enable them to develop their small movements as they build with bricks, push along toys and use simple tools in craft activities. Children have the opportunity to play in the local play park every day, which encourages their physical abilities as they climb and run. Outdoor activities in the garden and park are used to increase children's awareness of sounds and smells.

Children learn good hygiene routines which promote their health. For example, children have access to their own towels and flannels and sensible measures are taken to ensure sick children are not admitted whilst they are infectious preventing cross infection. The first aid box is well stocked and easily accessed.

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

The provision is good.

The childminders clear knowledge of child protection and the actions she would take if concerned safe-guards children's well being. Parents are informed of her duty to report concerns through the clear child protection policy.

Children play with age appropriate toys in a clean and homely environment. Suitable care is taken to manage any risks around the home with consideration to the children's ages and stages of development. For example, gates are in place to prevent children entering the kitchen or the stairs, and a fireguard is in place. However, further improvements will safe guard children from shutting fingers in doors. Children are beginning to learn road safety as the childminder encourages all the children to stop, look and listen for cars as they cross the road. The childminder

talks to the children about what they are doing and increases their awareness of safe behaviour. She is very conscious of setting a good example of safe behaviour to children recognising they may copy her actions.

Toys and activities are planned to meet the ages and stages of development of the children cared for. Space is sufficient to allow older children to play with equipment independently out of the reach of the younger children.

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

The provision is good.

Children relate very well to the childminder. She sits at the children's level, talks, listens and encourages their activity. When changing nappies she talks to the child making the experience a warm, individual caring experience.

Children have good opportunities to develop their abilities well as they undertake a variety of activities both indoor and outdoor. They undertake painting and craft activities, cooking, make believe play and outdoor physical activity. They meet with other children enabling them to develop their social skills with both children and adults. Children's language development is encouraged well by the childminders ability to listen and talk with the children as they play and go about their daily activity.

The childminder shows positive sensitivity to individual children's needs and works with parents to encourage children's development. She organises activities and experiences that will capture the child's interest and encourage development.

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

The provision is good.

Children develop an awareness of the local community and the wider world through outings to the park and surrounding area. A variety of books, children's television programmes and play resources enable children to develop an awareness of diversity. The childminder is knowledgeable and looks for opportunities to develop children's interest and knowledge and understanding of others.

The childminder provides a good role model for the children consequently the children behave well. Children are encouraged to learn responsible behaviour and show consideration and thought for others as they play. They learn good manners as they go about their daily routine; for example, they are encouraged to say please, thank you, hello and goodbye at the appropriate times.

The childminder has friendly professional relationships with parents. She discusses the child's needs thoroughly with the parents ensuring that individual needs are met well. She demonstrates a good understanding of special needs and the implications for children and their families. Her openness, knowledge and understanding enable positive relationships to develop for the children's benefit.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has a clear sense of purpose; she devotes her time to providing children with warm nurturing care. She is constantly looking to improve the resources and service she offers to parents and their children to ensure she meets the children's developmental needs. Clear policies inform parents of the service offered enabling a clear understanding between the parents and childminder to be established.

Children benefit from the childminders attention in the spacious environment where their all around development is encouraged. The childminder holds suitable qualifications and is keen to build her expertise, however her first aid certificate has expired. Records are generally maintained well, providing valuable records and clear information about the children cared for. The attendance record requires improvement to meet current requirements.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report since the last inspection.

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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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):

- keep a separate clear record of attendance to meet current regulations
- improve children's safety near doors to prevent fingers getting trapped
- undertake and complete a recognised paediatric first aid course

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)