

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY251941
<b>Inspection date</b>	31 January 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Bharti Vakil
<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 2003. She lives with her husband and two school age children in Hounslow the London borough of Ealing. The whole of the ground is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family has no pets.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding two children under three.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and the Hounslow child minding network.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy being cared for in a clean and well cared for family home. They are protected from infection or harmful bacteria by the practice of good hygiene, such as regular cleaning of the home and disinfection of play equipment. They are learning about the importance of

covering their mouths when coughing, washing hands before meals and after using the toilet. The health and well-being of children is safeguarded by the childminder's clear understating of emergency first aid and systems that are in place. Children needing medication are assured of receiving the correct medication. They are protected from unnecessary illness as they do not attend when they are suffering from infections.

Children are fed in a warm and relaxed environment and therefore they are happy and content. They enthusiastically help the childminder to get dishes out at lunch time. The childminder has good systems in place to find out about children's dietary needs, allergies and eating patterns. Children enjoy an interesting range of well balanced, healthy snacks and meals, which meet their individual dietary requirements. Children enjoy drinking juice or water and enthusiastically eat freshly prepared food, such as chapattis, lentils, vegetables and plain yogurt.

Children benefit from regular outdoor exercise as they enjoy playing in the garden, using push and pull along toys. There are regular outings to local toddler groups, library and parks where they have opportunities to explore a wider range of physical activities. This helps children to develop control of their bodies and improve their physical skills.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a bright, warm and welcoming environment. They are relaxed as space has been organised to meet their individual need appropriately. A range of suitable equipment and furniture such as car seats, safety gate, child size table and chairs and travel cot is available to meet the care needs of children attending. However, the use of sofa for young children's rest and sleep times compromises children's safety.

Children have access to a good range of toys and learning materials which are checked regularly to ensure they are safe. However, the storage and presentation of the resources limits children's free choice and independence.

The childminder has developed sound fire evacuation procedures. The escape plan is practised with children to ensure the quick and safe evacuation from the home, should the need arise. The childminder has the required documents and procedures in place to ensure child's welfare is safe guarded and promoted. For example, she has appropriate written child protection procedures along with a good understanding of her role and responsibilities in this area. Children are safe guarded through a variety of practical measures. These include, covering electrical sockets and storing hazardous items out of children's reach.

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

The provision is good.

Children are well settled at the childminder's home. They enjoy a warm and close relationship with the childminder which enables them to extend their learning in a supportive and caring environment. Children's feeling of being secure is enhanced as the childminder provides a daily routine that is familiar. This provides a stable environment to young children and helps them look forward to their day.

Children are curious and play enthusiastically with a good range of toys and resources, which fully promotes their learning. The childminder is aware of children's likes and dislikes and spends time talking and responding well to their needs. She encourages their imagination as they enjoy

making up stories, this helps children to make sense of the world. They are developing good hand eye coordination as they practise their early writing skills when they draw, paint and colour. They thoroughly enjoy playing musical keyboard and participating in action rhymes. They have further opportunities to enjoy music sessions at the local library which they visit regularly. At the library they are learning to choose and borrow books and listen to stories. The regular attendance to other child friendly settings such as toddler groups gives children chances to enjoy a wider range of activities as well as socialise with other children.

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

The provision is good.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. Their needs are met well as they follow their normal routine as discussed with their parents. They have time to relax as well be active. Children respond well to what they see, hear and taste. Children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of others is increasing as they enjoy easy access to a selection of books and play materials promoting positive images of diversity. Their understanding about the wider world is extended by regular outings to groups, parks and shops. The childminder helps them to develop a positive sense of self image through her own positive attitude towards inclusion. Children have equal access to all toys and activities.

Children are developing a sense of right from wrong as the childminder uses age appropriate management behaviour strategies which are consistently applied. Children are encouraged to share and to have regard for others. As a result, children learn to be considerate towards others and try out new experiences in a supportive environment.

Children are happy and content as the childminder has good relationships with parents. Detailed information is shared with the childminder to ensure the children's needs are well met and they are cared for according to parents wishes. The childminder is warm and attentive towards children who clearly enjoy the time they spend with her.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children feel at ease and content in the well organised environment. The childminder is warm and affectionate towards them and the children are happy and relaxed in her care. They are familiar with the routines that are in place to help them settle and feel secure. Children happily explore their environment because overall, the childminder has taken steps to make her home safe for children. However, further precautions are required to ensure children's safety at sleeping times.

The childminder is committed to her own professional development by attending relevant training courses and keeping up-to-date with childcare issues. She effectively uses her knowledge gained from attending training courses for example, Birth to three matters framework, which supports children in their earliest years. She is keen to enhance her knowledge by attending further training.

The required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place. The childminder regularly shares information with parents and carers to keep them informed about their children. This contributes to the continuity in children's care. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides care.

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

Since the previous inspection, the childminder has taken steps to safeguard children's welfare. She has a system in place to seek written permission from parents for emergency medical advice or treatment. The records are organised to maintain confidentiality.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since the last April 2004 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.

## **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 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):

- assess the risks to children in relation to sleeping arrangements and take action to minimise these
- organise toys and play resources to give children further opportunities to make free choices.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)