

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY273547
Inspection date	05 February 2008
Inspector	Rufia Uddin
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 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 in Stratford, in the London borough of Newham. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The family has an aquarium.

There are two children currently on roll. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm home where they learn the importance of hygiene and personal care through daily routines as they are encouraged to wash hands at appropriate times. They have a good role model to follow as they watch the childminder wash her hands after routine activities such as wiping noses and changing nappies. The childminder has appropriate hygienic

practices within her home such as using an antibacterial spray on low chairs after activities and before meal times and maintaining a cleaning routine. The childminder has a current first aid certificate and children receive appropriate care if they have minor accidents. She has a first aid box, which is fully stocked. However, children's health is not assured in an emergency situation because the childminder does not obtain written parental consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice.

The childminder works closely with the individual needs of the children and the preferences of their parents around meal and snack times for the children. A well balanced menu is available for the parents to see the meals the childminder can provide throughout the day.

Children engage in many physical activities both within the home and in the garden for example, playing in the garden with bats and balls, riding on toys and a small slide, and engaging in sand and water play. The children have regular time away from the setting as they visit nearby parks, go for walks and go on outings to local shops.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit because the childminder's home is safe and secure allowing them to move freely between the main play areas used in safety. They use the ground floor mainly to play and benefit from the large playrooms, which are attractively presented with posters and pictures displayed. Children develop their independence making choices about what they want to play with from a very good range of furniture and play provision, which is stored in low level boxes and on open shelving units. This is well maintained and effective procedures are in place to ensure all resources are checked regularly and are clean and safe.

Children's safety is ensured inside the childminder's home because she removes all potential risks and hazards. For example, plug sockets have been covered and dangerous substances are inaccessible. Appropriate fire safety equipment, such as smoke alarms and a fire blanket are available. The childminder has a suitable emergency evacuation plan in place. Children are also well protected and safeguarded from harm because the childminder has a good understanding of her role with regards to child protection issues. She has completed training in this area and has a good knowledge of the procedures to follow and records to be maintained should she be concerned about a child in her care. The childminder shares information with parents about her responsibilities, which helps support their understanding of her role.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from the warm and caring environment. They are confident, happy and content in the childminder's care and enjoy the time they spend in the setting. They interact with each other, laughing and chatting happily with the childminder and her family as they share books and complete puzzles together. Children develop warm trusting relationships with the childminder and enjoy their time in her care. They develop their senses using a range of play equipment. For example they feel a range of textures on toys and in books, listen to sounds and watch the lights flash when playing with equipment which helps children learn through music. Children enjoy opportunities to be imaginative and creative using a range of equipment such as dolls and cars to express their ideas.

The childminder knows the children well and provides outings and activities which interest them and help develop their imaginations. Children enjoy dressing up and playing with dolls and buggies as they various role playing create scenarios. Children access crayons and pencils easily and enjoy drawing and creating their own designs. Children enjoy painting, and playing with play dough and glue. The childminder engages well with the children, encouraging conversation and taking an active part in their play, whilst letting them make choices and develop their own ideas. The childminder has attended training in the Birth to three matters framework. However the planning of activities and assessment is not yet fully linked to the Birth to three matters framework. Visits to local groups provide opportunities for children to take part in a wider range of activities and develop their social skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's awareness of the wider world is encouraged by the access of books and play resources which reflect different cultures and disabilities. The childminder makes regular visits to local facilities such as childminding groups, parks, and shops. Children learn about their local environment and community. Their individual needs are well met as the childminder follows their daily routine as discussed with their parents. Regular discussions with parents ensure that they are soundly informed about the service and children's activities and progress. The childminder has a positive attitude about caring for children with disabilities and special needs.

Children are well behaved and responsive to the childminder. The childminders strategies are effective and the childminder uses positive strategies to manage children's behaviour which are appropriate to each child's age and level of understanding. She has incorporated a behaviour management statement and some simple house rules into the information she provides for parents, ensuring they are fully aware of the strategies, thereby encouraging consistency. Children understand how to treat each other with respect. For example they play well and cooperate with each other taking turns in sharing popular pieces of equipment.

Children benefit from the good partnerships that have developed between the childminder and parents. Parents are provided with good information on the care practices used, daily routines and activities enabling them to keep up to date with their child's care and experiences. Children have warm, trusting relationships with the childminder and are settled and secure in her care.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are happy and settled in a comfortable family home. This helps them to feel confident and at ease. They enjoy a spacious and well-organised setting, in which they can move around freely and confidently. The childminder is suitably qualified for her role and she attends regular training courses. These include a level four qualification in the management of quality standards, and training in first aid. The childminder has experience of working in an after school club. The childminder has developed written policies and procedures to promote the welfare, care and learning of children and has knowledge of the relevant issues. She has clear procedures in place to safeguard minded children from persons who are not vetted and she always makes sure that children are not left alone with such people.

Children benefit from the childminder's commitment to working in partnership with parents. Parents are well informed by verbal means and a range of written policies and procedures. Documentation systems are maintained in line with the regulatory requirements of the National

Standards. Records are organised, up-to-date and readily available for inspection. The daily record of children's attendance is accurately maintained. Personal information is stored securely to ensure confidentiality. The childminder uses a range of written records which are organised and generally effective in supporting the childminding business.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

As a result of recommendations raised at the last inspection, the childminder has developed a written complaints procedure and a system to record complaints. This helps to ensure children's safety and welfare, and to keep parents and carers better informed.

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.

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):

- obtain written parental consent for seeking emergency medical treatment or advice
- develop the planning of activities and assessment in line with the Birth to three matters framework.

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