

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY282043
Inspection date	06 February 2008
Inspector	Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi
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 2004. She lives with one adult son. The family live in a three bedroom house in a residential area of Banstead in Surrey. The downstairs of the house is the main area used for childminding. A garden is available for outdoor play. The family have a dog.

The childminder is registered to care for four children under eight years old, and there are currently four children under eight on roll. The childminder also cares for children over eight years old.

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 protected from the risk of cross-infection and learn to understand simple good hygiene practices when they wash their hands before they have their lunch and recognise other times when this is important, such as after stroking the dog or going to the toilet. The

childminder maintains good standards of hygiene in the home, ensuring that kitchen and bathroom areas and floors are kept clean. Children benefit from varied meals and snacks that meet their nutritional needs. They enjoy a sandwich and some grapes for lunch and look forward to their favourite meal of fish for tea. Children take part in regular physical activity, such as taking the dog for a walk in the park or playing on the equipment in the garden, which contributes to a healthy lifestyle. Their health is protected because the childminder keeps accurate records about their health needs, any accidents they have and any medicine they need to be given. The childminder can take good care of them if they have an accident or become ill as she has a valid first aid certificate.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, suitably maintained home, with facilities to meet their needs. The childminder sets aside space in the home for play, where children can easily access toys and play materials, and their work is displayed on the walls. She checks resources and equipment that children use on a regular basis, to ensure it is safe and suitable for children to play with. Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised because the childminder takes effective steps to reduce potential hazards. She makes sure that cleaning materials are stored out of children's reach and restricts access to the kitchen with a safety gate as needed. The childminder has attended child protection training and has a good understanding of her responsibilities towards the children in her care. This helps safeguard children's welfare. She knows what to do if she is worried about a child, but does not currently keep local safeguarding children procedures and contact details readily accessible with her other childminding records, to ensure she can refer to them quickly if required.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and settled in the childminder's care. They develop close bonds with the childminder, who is warm and responsive towards them, and attentive to their needs. The childminder spends her time talking and playing with the children and makes good use of opportunities to support their learning through everyday routines and play. Children take part in a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities and experiences that support their all-round development. They enjoy outings to music sessions, toddler groups or a gymnastics class, and choose from a good variety of toys and play materials at the childminder's home. Children show excitement as they splatter paint on to a large sheet of paper and fold it in half to create a butterfly, play a memory game with the childminder, or cuddle up to read a story. The childminder keeps examples of children's work to share with parents and includes useful information about children's progress and plans for future activities in their daily diary.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed into the setting and valued as individuals, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Information about children's individual needs is gathered before children start at the setting, and the childminder plans and adapts activities to make sure all children are included and can take part. Children play with resources that reflect the wider community and talk about different festivals such as Chinese New Year, which helps them learn to value diversity. The childminder is calm and patient. She makes sure children are clear

about her expectations, and 'house rules' are displayed so that older children are familiar with them. The childminder has a positive approach to managing children's behaviour, which helps them play harmoniously together. Children benefit from good relationships between the childminder and their parents. They talk every day to exchange information as required, and the childminder keeps a daily diary for the younger children. This effective communication ensures children experience consistent care and parents are kept well informed.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder has completed required childminding training and makes good use of local courses to further update her knowledge and skills. She keeps all of the required documentation that promotes the health, safety and wellbeing of minded children as well as additional policies and procedures. She is familiar with all requirements regarding record-keeping, although she has not yet set up a system to keep a record of complaints if needed. The childminder's home is well organised for childminding. There is space set aside for children to play, resources are readily accessible, and safety precautions are in place so that children can move around freely. The childminder plans the day around children's needs and they enjoy their time in her care. The childminder meets 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 that the attendance register includes children's exact times of arrival and departure. The childminder now keeps an accurate record of children's times of attendance, which promotes their safety and welfare. She was also asked to ensure that the glass panels in the back door were made safe or inaccessible. This door has now been replaced and does not pose a hazard to children.

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):

- make sure information about local child protection procedures is readily accessible to refer to if required

- devise a system for keeping a log of complaints that is available to parents on request

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