



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	139867
<b>Inspection date</b>	01 December 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Cheryl Walker

<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.
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### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered for 16 years. She lives in a three bedroom house in a residential area of Carshalton. The front downstairs room in the house is the main area used for childminding, although all of the home may be used when required. A garden is available for playing outdoors.

The childminder lives with her husband and two grown up children. The family have a dog, and also keep birds in an outdoor aviary.

The childminder is registered to provide care for a maximum of four children and is

currently minding two children on a part-time basis.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

The children learn about the importance of good hygiene practices, washing their hands after using the bathroom for example, which reduces the risk of cross contamination. The children benefit from the childminder's awareness of what constitutes good nutrition, which ensures their dietary needs are met throughout the day. They take part in a range of activities that contribute to their physical development, such as visiting parks and going for walks to promote their good health.

The childminder has a current first aid certificate and has a good awareness of the correct procedures to be followed for recording accidents and various medication. The children's health is well supported as the childminder gives high priority to children's well-being by building secure relationships and taking relevant information about the child's individual needs, however, relevant doctor's information has not been obtained for all the children in placement, which could result in delays in seeking treatment.

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

The provision is good.

The children are able to move freely and safely around specified areas in the home because the childminder takes effective steps to reduce any potential hazards. They independently choose activities from a wide range of good quality resources, which the childminder makes sure are suitable for their age and stage of development so they can play safely.

The childminder gives high priority to maintaining the children's safety by supervising them at all times, and by making sure information about child protection procedures is readily accessible. She demonstrates a clear understanding of her role and responsibilities with regard to child protection. This safeguards and promotes the children's welfare.

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

The provision is good.

The children benefit from the warm and caring approach of the childminder. They are secure and settled in the environment and feel very much at home. The children have good relationships with the childminder who is responsive to individual needs and joins in with their play, helping them to develop their confidence and self esteem. The children choose from a varied range of developmentally appropriate resources. They play enthusiastically with their chosen activity, trains and tracks or puzzle

bricks, for example.

The children respond very well to the childminders positive interactions. She motivates them well and provides effective challenges to enable them to develop their skills. Their learning is extended and they develop a good sense of achievement through the childminder being interested in their play and using good questioning techniques.

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

The provision is good.

The children are highly valued and their individual needs are well met because the childminder spends time getting to know them well. She works closely with the parents to identify the children's preferences, routine and individual needs to ensure they settle well. Clear and regular discussion with parents ensures the children experience consistent care. The childminder has had some experience of caring for children with special needs and is aware of the need to treat all children as individuals.

The children behave well because of the good relationships fostered. The childminder's effective use of praise and encouragement builds the children's self esteem. The children have access to the full range of activities offered. The childminder ensures that resources available promote a positive view of the wider community.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The children feel at home and at ease in the setting which helps them gain confidence and also to become independent. The organisation of play resources enables the children to access equipment freely to support their development. This means they are confident to initiate their own individual play and learning.

Documentation is appropriately maintained and kept confidentially. Most of the required documentation is in place which enables safe management of the service and safeguards the children's welfare.

The parents are well informed about their child's day and the care provided through daily conversations and the use of contact books. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

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

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to make improvements to the range of resources that positively reflect all sections of society. She was also asked to improve her record keeping with regard to accidents and emergencies.

Positive additions have been incorporated into the toy collection which enable children to gain a true insight into the world around them. The appropriate changes have been made to the systems for recording accidents and prior written permission is now requested from parents for emergency medical treatment in case of an emergency.

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

There have been no complaints reported to Ofsted 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.

## **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):

- ensure all relevant information, including doctor's details, is obtained from parents for all children.

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)