

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY278450
Inspection date	19 December 2007
Inspector	Helen Mary Ball
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 inadequate – notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives with her partner and two children in a house in Andover. There are shops, schools and parks within walking distance. The whole of the childminder's home is available for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for four children but has not cared for any in the last year.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children are at risk in the event of an accident as the childminder does not hold a current first aid qualification.

The childminder has a sound understanding of suitable procedures to:

- * promote children's good health, by ensuring that positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures are put in place when children are ill. (National Standard 7: Health)

- * ensure that food and drink for children is adequate, properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements. (National Standard 8: Food and drink).

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

- * The childminder understands how to promote children's safety and take precautions to prevent accidents. However, she has not given consideration to evacuation procedures in her home and this puts children at risk in the event of fire. (National Standard 6: Safety)

- * The premises are safe, secure and include the necessary facilities for children. The childminder demonstrates an awareness of how to ensure the environment is made welcoming to children. (National Standard 4: Physical environment)

- * The furniture, equipment and toys are safe and appropriate for the needs of children. (National Standard 5: Equipment)

- * The childminder has a basic knowledge of child protection procedures approved by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, and is aware of their responsibility to protect the welfare of the child. (National Standard 13: Child Protection)

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

- * The childminder has a satisfactory knowledge of how individual children, develop and learn. (National Standard 3: Care, learning and play)

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is inadequate.

The childminder:

- * has an appropriate knowledge and awareness of the importance of treating each child with equal respect and concern (National Standard 9: Equal opportunities)

- * is aware that some children may have learning difficulties or disabilities, and understands the importance of working in partnership with parents and with other professionals to promote the welfare and development of the child (National Standard 10: Special needs)

- * shows a willingness and commitment to working with parents to manage children's behaviour in a consistent way which promotes the child's welfare and development (National Standard 11: behaviour)

- * has a satisfactory understanding of the need to develop a partnership with parents, taking into account their differing needs. (National Standard 12: Working in partnership with parents and carers). However, the childminder has not kept up to date with current requirements; she

does not have a system in place to record complaints and does not make parents aware of how to contact the regulator in the event of a complaint.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The childminder:

* is aware of the duty to ensure that other people living or working on the premises are suitable to be in contact with children. However, she has not renewed her first aid qualification which expired in December 2004. Therefore the childminder is not aware of the current guidance and this means children's health is at risk in the event of an accident. (National Standard 1: Suitable person)

The childminder understands the importance of working within the constraints of the condition of registration relating to number of children; and of organising space and resources to best meet the needs of the children (National Standard 2: Organisation) and has a sound awareness of the records to be kept and the importance of these. (National Standard 14: Documentation)

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the childminder was asked to make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint. She has written a complaints procedure but this does not include the name, address and telephone number of Ofsted. This means that parents are not aware of how to contact the regulator in the event of concerns about the provision.

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.

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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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children
- assess the risks to children in relation to fire, and take action to minimise these
- devise a system to record complaints relating to the National Standards and any action taken

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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