

Inspection report for early years provision

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Unique Reference Number | EY283543 |
| Inspection date | 21 December 2007 |
| Inspector | Jennifer Liverpool |
| 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 satisfactory. 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 her adult daughter in the Leytonstone area within the London borough of Waltham Forest. The whole of the ground floor and a first floor room is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding one child over five after school and during the school holidays. The childminder drives and also walks to local schools to take and collect children. At the time of the inspection there were no children present. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how children's good health is promoted and maintained. She has appropriate procedures in place for dealing with sick and injured children, for example, children who are infectious are not allowed to attend. Also, children will

be given appropriate care in the event of sustaining minor injuries because the childminder holds a valid first aid certificate and keeps a fully stocked first aid box. The childminder describes how children would learn about their personal hygiene through daily routines such as hand washing before meals, after using the toilet and when coming in from play.

From discussion, the childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of healthy eating. She talks about offering children a choice of fresh fruits daily, including the need to have drinking water accessible at all times. The childminder explains how she provides children with regular opportunities for trips and helps them to develop their physical skills through outdoor play.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder describes how she organises the space and arranges the rooms to meet children's developmental needs. She has taken action to ensure that risks in and outside her home have been minimised, so that children can play safely, for example, electrical sockets are covered, smoke alarms are located on all floors and the front door handle is above children's height. The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how children's safety is promoted when out on trips. She has systems in place for obtaining parental consent.

There is a satisfactory range of toys and equipment. The childminder explains how toys will be stored safely so that children can have independent access. The childminder has a sound understanding of child protection issues and how to safeguard children's welfare. She describes the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedures to follow if there are concerns about a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder describes how she will organise the day to meet children's developing needs. She talks about providing a daily routine that allows for children to have opportunities to play, participate in quiet activities and go out on trips. The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how children develop and learn. She talks about encouraging children's communication and language skills through asking children questions about what they enjoy doing at school and what they see when out on trips, play three letter word games and read stories.

The childminder explains how she supports children in developing mathematical ideas and skills through using computer games, books and general discussions in their play. The childminder describes how children learn about the local environment through discussions and visits to the local farm, parks and the library.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder showed a sound knowledge of behaviour management, giving good examples of how she would deal with a variety of situations, according to children's age and their stage of development. The childminder also talks about how she would promote positive behaviour through praise and encouragement. The childminder describes how children learn about similarities, differences and diversity through discussions. Overall, a limited range of toys reflect positive images of race, gender and disability.

The childminder talks about acknowledging children's different abilities and being aware that some children may have additional needs and taking steps promote their welfare. From discussion, the childminder is able to demonstrate a secure knowledge of how to promote positive working relationships with parents. She has systems in place to gather information regarding medical needs, dietary requirements and to share and exchange details about care routines and procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the National Standards and as a result of this, she is able to provide appropriate care for children. She is aware of her role and responsibilities for the notification of significant events and to protect and safeguard children. The childminder has taken steps to minimise the risks of hazards to children and demonstrates a clear understanding of how to promote children's good health. The childminder describes how she helps children to develop through providing activities and supporting them in their play.

The childminder is keen to attend childcare courses and has completed training in special educational needs, behaviour management and the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, she is not fully aware of the procedures for dealing with complaints. All mandatory records are in place, confidential and well maintained. Overall, evidence suggests that the childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection actions were raised because the childminder failed to meet the National Standards relating to health and safety. The childminder was asked to improve her knowledge and understanding of first aid, to keep a record of children's attendance and to display the registration certificate. Other actions raised included to assess the risk of children when transporting them in a vehicle, inform parents of the procedures for complaints, keep records of children's personal details and obtain written permission for urgent medical treatment and outings.

All actions have now been addressed and as a result of this, the quality of care for children has improved and is now satisfactorily meeting the National Standards. Relevant consent is now obtained from parents for urgent medical treatment, outings and for transporting children in a vehicle. Also, the certificate of registration is displayed, children's personal details are kept and daily attendance records are accurately maintained to ensure that children will be accounted for and protected. The childminder has developed her knowledge of first aid and will be able to provide appropriate care for children in the event of them sustaining minor injuries. She has taken steps to improve children's safety when out on trips by providing suitable car safety seats and making sure that they are securely fitted. The childminder ensures that parents are now kept informed about the procedures for complaints.

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 satisfactory. 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):

- develop the range of toys and activities to include positive images of race, gender and disability
- further develop own knowledge of how to deal with complaints.

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