



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	136667
Inspection date	16 November 2005
Inspector	Elizabeth Anne Coffey

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 has been registered to care for children since 1993.

She lives with her husband and adult daughter. They live in a 3 bedroom lower ground floor flat, situated in a Victorian detached house in Anerley, in the London borough of Bromley. The children have access to the lounge, kitchen, dining room, toy room, hallway and bathroom. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for 4 children and is currently caring for 3 school

aged children on a part-time basis. She holds a level 2 Learning Assistant certificate and is currently working towards a Learning Mentor qualification. She works as a Learning Mentor at a local primary school, where the children who are currently minded attend.

The childminder's husband acts as her assistant. 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 enjoy a healthy balanced diet that is adapted to meet their individual needs. They are helped to make healthy choices, such as choosing from a selection of fresh fruits for desert. Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through good example and explanation by the childminder, for example they are gently reminded to wash their hands before dinner and after using the toilet. Children develop good coordination and keep physically fit by walking from school and through robust outdoor play in the garden and nearby parks. Children are cared for by a childminder who is trained to administer first aid and who demonstrates an awareness of appropriate health and hygiene policies and procedures.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a secure and well supervised environment. They use safe and suitable toys and equipment that stimulate and challenge them, for example children deftly use an assortment of pens and paper to create imaginative artwork. Children learn valuable lessons about road safety and keeping themselves safe through clear explanations and good example by the childminder. Children are helped to highlight dangers and identify possible solutions through practical activities such as completing worksheets on possible courses of action to take if faced with real life dangers like an outbreak of fire. Children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted because the childminder has gained a sound knowledge of child protection procedures by undertaking training in this field.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children respond excitedly to a wide range of creative activities including painting, tracing and drawing. They use their imaginations well and act out their day-to-day experiences in a fun and creative manner. The childminder helps them to develop their role play by providing an extensive range of props and equipment and by spontaneously joining in and skilfully extending their make-believe games. They are confident, eager learners and keen to demonstrate their skills such as reading and

drawing. Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They benefit from a well known routine and enthusiastically help themselves to equipment and resources which are stored in the walk in toy room. This supports their developing independence and confidence and helps to ensure that they enjoy their time with the childminder.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. Their self-esteem is raised by very good use of praise and encouragement by the childminder. They are eager to display their achievements for example they proudly show examples of their art work and draw pictures for visitors. Children behave well and are helped to understand the consequence of their actions through discussion and the use of books on associated topics. Parent's views are sought and the childminder works closely with them to meet their child's needs. The childminder provides fully inclusive care for children with a range of abilities and has undertaken additional training in this field. Children develop an awareness and respect of others through use of an extensive and imaginative range of toys and resources, for example by the use of different utensils such as chopsticks at mealtimes.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care is enhanced by efficient and effective organisation. The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of childcare. She is proactive in attending a broad range of childcare related training courses that help to underpin good practice. This ensures children are kept safe and cared for in-line with current guidance. She understands and complies with most regulatory requirements although some sections of documentation are incomplete. This compromises children's health and safety. Where weaknesses in the system are identified she is keen to address these in order to ensure that her service reflects best practice. 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 agreed to improve resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice. The childminder has obtained additional toys, books and resources that reflect diversity. These are freely accessible and well used by the children. This helps to extend children's knowledge and understanding of different lifestyles and abilities.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made 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.

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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 further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- seek written permission from parents for emergency medical advice or treatment.

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