



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	139634
<b>Inspection date</b>	17 October 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Sandra Patricia Jeffrey

<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.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

This childminder has been registered since 1995. She lives with her 11-year-old son. The family live in a three-bedroom house, in a residential area within the London borough of Sutton.

The whole of the property excluding the master bedroom is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding five children under 8 years of age and four children over 8

years of age, all of whom attend part-time.

The childminder has a pet dog.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children have good opportunities to learn about physical exercise and a healthy lifestyle through having regular opportunities for fresh air, for example toys and play equipment are available outside so that children can have maximum benefit from the good weather. This regular physical exercise contributes to keeping them healthy.

Children play in a clean environment, where they receive appropriate support to develop good personal hygiene skills as the childminder leads by example, such as washing hands before eating food. This also allows the children to become independent in their self-help skills.

Children begin to understand the benefits of a healthy diet. The childminder is aware of their likes and dislikes, and respects their individual dietary needs. Drinks are available throughout the day.

The childminder's up-to-date knowledge of first aid ensures children receive prompt treatment in an emergency.

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

The provision is good.

The children benefit from good supervision in a well-organised environment. This allows the children to move around safely and independently. The childminder has a risk assessment, which includes evacuation in an emergency. Children use the majority of the home and have easy access to the back garden, which gives them the freedom and independence to access a wider range of activities.

Children choose from a wide range of toys, equipment and activities, which the childminder ensures are suitable for their age and stage of development. Children may independently select from this range of toys, which gives them freedom of choice. Clear and consistent boundaries along with the close supervision enable the children to play safely.

The childminder safeguards and promotes children's welfare and has the required procedures and documents in place. For example, the childminder has a good understanding of child protection procedures in line with the latest government guidance.

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

The provision is good.

Children are happy and confident in the childminder's home. They settle well in the childminder's care due to regular routines. They make themselves at home and have a warm and secure relationship with the childminder. Good use of praise and encouragement by the childminder raises children's confidence. She recognises their achievements, such as when they handle books with care and when they behave well.

Children choose from a wide range of good quality resources that the childminder ensures are suitable for their age and stage of development. This means that children can play safely. Toys are organised so that children can choose things for themselves, which helps create a welcoming play environment. For instance, some toys are stored at low level in the area used, and there is clear space for toys to be set out.

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

The provision is good.

Children feel at home within the setting and are aware of house rules and their boundaries. They respond well to age appropriate expectations. Good use of praise and encouragement by the childminder raises children's self-esteem.

The childminder respects parent's wishes, which contributes to the children's sense of well-being. Children learn important social skills, such as, why it is kind to share and to take turns. They are encouraged to develop a positive view of the wider community, through books, stories and by playing with toys that reflect diversity.

Communication between the parents and the childminder is good. They talk to each other daily and share a daily diary. This helps to provide the children with consistency of care and attention. Policies and procedures are in place to share with parents and written business agreements are up-to-date.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Written policies and procedures guide the childminder in her daily practice. This ensures the childminder meets the needs of the children and shares all relevant information parents. Regular informal discussions with parents and the use of daily diaries ensure continuity of care for the children.

Mandatory records are in place, confidential and well maintained. This guarantees the safe and effective management of the setting in order to promote children's welfare. Records relating to daily attendance should be signed by the parents.

Overall the childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides care.

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

At the last inspection, the childminder was asked to obtain written permission from parents for administering medication to children and to request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. These are now in place to ensure children's safety and well-being is paramount.

### **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.

## **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 written daily attendance records are signed by parents.

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)