



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	136491
<b>Inspection date</b>	29 November 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Susan Linda Capon

<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?

The childminder was registered in 1992. She lives with her husband and adult child in a house situated in the London Borough of Bromley. All areas of the home are available for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play.

The family has no pets.

The childminder is registered to care for five children at any one time and is currently minding four children on a part-time basis. She currently uses the local amenities on a regular basis including parent and toddler groups and local parks.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

The children enjoy a range of physical activities on a regular basis which contributes to their good health. Through visits to local parks and parent and toddler groups they have access to a range of suitable equipment for climbing, jumping and sliding and are all learning to develop these skills. They have opportunities to play in the garden with a wide range of toys including climbing equipment, riding toys and balls. The children develop their self-esteem and confidence through playing together and learning from one another. They are all developing their understanding of how their body works and know when they need to take a rest, drink or use the bathroom.

All the children use good hygiene practices throughout the day; for example, they wash their hands before meals and after using the bathroom. Older children are aware they do this to "get rid of the germs". All the children play in a safe and clean environment as the childminder follows good hygiene practice herself and is a good role-model to the children. She ensures all her working surfaces are clear and suitably cleaned before preparing the children's food and drink. Children receive suitable first aid treatment when they have an accident and the childminder provides a detailed record for the parents. Medication administered is through the written parental consent and records are available to the parents. The children are free from infection through good sickness procedures followed by the childminder.

All the children enjoy home made healthy, nutritious meals each day using minimal processed foods. The childminder stores the food safely following her learning through a safe food handling course. All the children have access to drinks at all times. The children are developing their understanding of healthy eating through discussion; for example, talking about the food the "Hungry Caterpillar" eats in a story book. They are aware fresh fruit and vegetables are good for them. The children eat well and are developing good social skills and table manners as they sit together at the table to eat their meals. Children's individual dietary needs are met at all times; for example, one child is allergic to peanuts and all food is nut free. All the children eat suitable food which meet their individual needs and take into account their parents wishes.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The children play in a warm, welcoming, clean and well organised home. They have ample space to move around freely and play solitary and together. The children explore their environment safely as the childminder has made most areas of the home and garden safe and secure. The fire blanket in the kitchen requires securing to ensure the children's safety in a fire. All the children are developing their understanding of how to keep themselves safe both in and out of doors. They know they must not leave the play areas without asking the childminder and older children know how to cross the road safely using the Green Cross Code. The children freely

access a good range of suitable, organised resources. Younger children use suitable equipment to meet their individual needs; for example, a buggy, high chair and car seat. All the home furnishings, toys and equipment the children use are clean, in good order, suitable and safe for their needs. The children are safe and secure through the childminder's sound knowledge of child protection procedures in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

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

The provision is good.

The children are fully stimulated through the provision of a good range of toys and equipment readily accessible to them. They make their own selection from the toys and equipment provided appropriately to meet the individual needs of all the children attending. They play imaginatively creating their own games and ideas; for example, sitting under the table and pretending they are in bed at night time. The children develop their learning through the activities provided skilfully, supported by the childminder; for example, counting pieces of materials needed to make their cat or dog figure. All the children are confident in their surroundings, interact well with the childminder and one another. They are developing their skills through the different toys available including construction, puzzles, books, art and craft activities, small world items, musical instruments and outdoor play equipment. The childminder develops their self-esteem and confidence as she praises and encourages their efforts. All the children enjoy their regular outings to parent and toddler groups, Christmas Tree Farm and Crystal Place Park.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

All the children are valued, respected and treated as individuals. They develop their knowledge and understanding of other people and the world about them through the toys depicting positive images including dolls, books and figures. They visit other childminders and childcare provisions extending their opportunities to meet and socialise with children from ethnic minorities. All the children are developing their independence skills and make their own choices and selections throughout the day; for example, the children played with different toys alongside one another. Children have their individual needs met; for example, young children maintain their own eating and sleeping routine. Young children receive some one to one attention during the school day. Children with special needs receive good care through the childminder's understanding of their specific needs.

All the children are very settled and secure in their surroundings. New children settle quickly through the good procedures in place. They enjoy their time at the childminders and have attended for several years. All the children have developed a good relationship with other family members. The children behave well as they are cared for in a calm, pleasant and child orientated atmosphere. They are aware of the consistent house rules and boundaries; for example, the children always sit down at the table to eat and drink. Younger children are developing their understanding of the

rules as the childminder uses a firm "No" to discourage them from playing with the computer. The children play well together, share, take turns and co-operate with one another and the childminder. They are fully stimulated and occupied preventing them from becoming bored and disruptive.

The children have confidence in the childminder as they see her working closely with their parents. Parents receive good information about their child's day through regular verbal discussion. Written contracts and most agreements relating to their child's care and safety are in place. There is no written consent for the childminder to seek emergency treatment for a child. The children receive suitable individual care through the updated information provided by the parents and implemented by the childminder.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The children are well cared for in an organised provision. They have access to suitable areas for resting, sleeping, eating, playing, messy activities and time outdoors. All the toys and equipment are suitable and well organised throughout the home. The children benefit from the professional approach of the childminder. The childminder keeps abreast of the changes to the National Standards and ensures she updates her training as required; for example, she is booked to attend a course to update her First Aid qualification. She keeps well organised paperwork and detailed records demonstrating how she organises her business and provides quality care for children. All her records are suitably stored to maintain confidentiality. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

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

The childminder was required to provide a second smoke alarm to ensure there was one on each floor of her premises. She has replaced her smoke alarm making her premises safe in the event of a fire and improving the safety for the children.

She was required to provide an incident book for recording behaviour management requiring physical restraint. This is now in place and ensures the safety of the children at all times.

### **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 the fire blanket situated in the kitchen is secure and readily available in case of an emergency.
- request written consent from parents to seek emergency 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)