

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	146895
<b>Inspection date</b>	01 April 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Rufia Uddin
<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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been a registered since January 1997. She lives with her husband, two adult children and a daughter aged 16. The premises are situated in the Walthamstow area. They live in a house within walking distance of Thorpe Hall School and nursery in the London borough of Waltham Forest. Underground and Wood Street over ground stations are a short bus ride away. The dining room and conservatory areas are used for childminding. Bathroom facilities are available on the first floor. There are currently three children on roll.

The childminder has a selection of goldfish. She is a member of the National Childminding Association. She attends a childminders group. The childminders first language is Turkish.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean, well maintained home. Children's health is promoted because good standards of hygiene are maintained throughout the childminder's home. Children are encouraged to follow good personal hygiene routines, washing their hands before sitting down

to eat and after going to the toilet, increasing their awareness of how to look after their bodies. Suitable procedures are in place to respond to and record accidents and any medication administered. The childminder takes most of the appropriate steps to care for children who become ill or have accidents. However, children's health is not assured in an emergency situation because the childminder does not obtain written parental consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice. However the childminder has produced forms to allow her to implement this procedure.

The childminder works very closely with the individual needs of the children and the preferences of parents around meal and snack times for the children. Children enjoy and are well nourished by the healthy and nutritious foods the childminder provides, meeting their individual requirements. Regular drinks are provided. At snack time children enjoy fresh fruit and a drink.

Children benefit from opportunities to engage in a range of physical activities and the childminder recognises the importance of this. They can move around freely in the playrooms and walk to and from school every day with the childminder to promote their physical development. Children learn control of their bodies as they participate in songs and enjoy movement sessions, and have opportunities to play in the garden.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in rooms where risks are identified and minimised, and they move around freely and independently. Children can explore and enjoy the reasonably well-equipped premises. The play provision is accessible to the children and they make choices when accessing play provisions, which greatly supports children's learning. The space available to the children is used creatively, with a well resourced and comfortable book corner which is well used by the children. The childminder is vigilant and takes steps to minimise risks and hazards within the home promoting children's safety. For example, plug sockets are covered, and dangerous chemicals and cleaning materials are stored in locked kitchen cupboards. There is a written fire evacuation procedure, a fire blanket in place, and there are smoke detectors on both levels. Children's safety is ensured when on outings because written permission has been given for children to be taken on outings. However the childminder has overlooked the requirement to ensure that her own children who are now over 16 has been suitably vetted.

Children are protected and safeguarded from harm because the childminder has some understanding of her role with regards to child protection issues. She is aware of the procedures to follow should she have concerns about children in her care and discusses her role with parents ensuring they are kept aware of her responsibilities.

The childminder has the required procedures and documents in place. She has an understanding of child protection procedures in line with the safeguarding children guidelines.

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

The provision is good.

The childminder has a daily routine with the children which includes planned and free activities. Children play in the playrooms where their independence is fostered as they can choose between a variety of toys, books and age appropriate activities which are available to them. Children play with a wide range of familiar activities and the childminder offers opportunities for them to acquire skills and knowledge. Children are developing appropriate skills in counting and they

are able to write and count up to ten. Children count confidently and recognise numerals in their play. They count and compare the number, size and shapes of puzzles, using language such as bigger and smaller. Children enjoy their time when they return from school because the childminder displays sensitivity to balancing the school day with relaxation and interesting activities. A varied range of resources are organised so that children are able to access them independently. Children make choices about their care and activities, and know and comply with safety and health routines. Children are confident as they talk about their school and home. Children are involved in developmentally appropriate activities.

Children's social skills are developed through regular attendance at the local childminding group and they become competent learners, for example they self-select activities such as puzzles helping to increase their manipulative skills. Children are relaxed in the childminder's care, and enjoy close contact with her. For example the childminder helps children to brush their hair after school.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from secure informal relationships between the childminder and their parents enabling them to settle well and feel self assured. Settling in procedures work well. Children are settled gradually into the childminder's care to make sure that they and their parents get to know her well before the childminding placement begins. Parents are given information about the childminder's provision. They have contracts which set out clearly the different aspects of what the childminder provides, for example regarding meals, sickness and holidays. The childminder records information about children's needs and contact information. Information about children's likes and dislikes and routines is documented to ensure these are taken account of. Information is exchanged verbally, including details about what children have eaten, activities they have been involved in and outings, ensuring parents are informed about what their child has been involved in on a daily basis. When parents come to collect children the childminder talks to them and she ensures that information from children's schools is passed on to parents. Children feel secure and confident. They are valued and respected as individuals as their individual needs are met in consultation with parents. The childminder uses effective methods for managing behaviour, this helps children to understand the needs of others. They show care and concern for each other, play together harmoniously and behave well. The childminder provides a limited range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of others. However the childminder encourages the children to value everyone's individuality and diversity. She demonstrates a positive attitude towards caring for children with a disability although she has no experience of caring for children with a disability and/or learning difficulties. However the childminder is aware of the importance of working closely with parents, and would ask parents for a routine of care and discuss issues with professionals involved in the child's care.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has an understanding of the National Standards and is aware of most of the regulations and requirements she must meet. However, she has overlooked the requirement to ensure adults living in the home are suitably vetted, which may compromise children's safety. However the childminder has procedures in place to safeguard children from persons who are

not vetted, and she makes sure that children are not left alone with visitors who have not been vetted.

The childminder has developed written policies and procedures to promote the welfare, care and learning of children and has some knowledge of the relevant issues. The childminder uses a range of written records which are generally effective in supporting the childminding business. These are appropriately stored with an awareness of confidentiality issues. The childminder verbally shares information with parents to keep them informed about the service and their child's activities. This contributes to continuity in the children's care.

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

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

The childminder was told at the last inspection to ensure that persons over the age of 16 living or regularly present in the household when children are being minded, complete CM2 and CRB forms, to plan a range of activities and play opportunities for children aged 0 - five years to meet and develop their overall learning, and to develop knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

The childminder stated that she had ensured that her sixteen year old had completed the appropriate forms and that she had sent these off. However the process has not been completed. The childminder has significantly increased her knowledge and understanding of child protection issues since the last inspection. She has obtained a wide range of resources and written child protection procedures. She has important telephone numbers listed. She has a secure understanding about different types of abuse and how to make a referral, should concerns be raised, helping to safeguard children. The childminder has planned a range of activities which help to promote children's development.

The childminder was also asked to request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment, to develop knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities issues,

to provide parents with written information that details the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint with details of Ofsted, and to record details of children's times of arrival and departure in an attendance register. Some material has been added which helps promote equality of opportunity. The childminder has devised forms for seeking parental consent for emergency medical advice and treatment, however these forms have not yet been signed by parents. Parents are now provided with an appropriate complaint's procedure, and an attendance register is kept. This helps to promote children's safety and partnership with parents.

### **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 to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they must 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):

- obtain written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment
- make sure that persons over the age of 16 years living in the household undergo criminal record checks
- ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)