

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	105767
Inspection date	26 February 2008
Inspector	Michelle Tuck
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 has been registered since 1993. She lives with her husband and two adult sons in a first floor maisonette situated in a house in a residential area of Ladbroke Grove in the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

The areas used for childminding are the living room, the kitchen and the bathroom on the upper floor. There is no access to a garden, but children are taken to local carers and toddler groups on a regular basis.

The childminder is registered to care for four children under eight. There are currently two children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is supported satisfactorily as they are encouraged to follow simple hygiene routines. The childminder reminds them to wash their hands before they eat and after using

the toilet. Documentation is in place to ensure that accidents and administered medication are recorded, therefore, supporting children's ongoing health and well-being. However, the childminder has not sought permission from parents to seek emergency medical treatment. The childminder is first aid trained, which enables her to deal with any minor emergencies appropriately.

The childminder provides meals, drinks and snacks during the day. These are generally nutritious and benefit children's health.

Children take part in some form of physical activity on a regular basis to promote their general health and well-being. They go on walks in the local area and have opportunity to go swimming occasionally.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's safety is supported satisfactorily. Toys are cleaned and checked regularly and stored so as not to be a hazard. All areas indoors are well maintained, with precautions, such as window locks and socket covers. Fire safety equipment is in place, such as smoke alarms and a fire blanket. The childminder displays the emergency evacuation procedure on the door and children learn what they should do in an emergency. Children learn how to keep themselves safe when out walking. The childminder talks to them about crossing the road safely, and talks to them about holding hands and staying with her.

The childminder demonstrates a secure awareness of child protection issues. She has read literature relating to safeguarding children, which has provided her with information about the procedures she needs to follow in the event of a concern. This knowledge supports her in fulfilling her role of keeping children safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from being cared for in premises that are welcoming to them. Children are settled as their individual routines are respected and catered for. The childminder plans her day to accommodate children's needs. They enjoy the interaction they receive from the childminder and appear happy and relaxed in her care. She chats to the children about what they are doing, and they enjoy being able to play both indoors and outside, when they visit the park. They can choose what they want to do during the day and enjoy a basic range of activities which keep them interested.

Children enjoy using a range of creative materials such as paints. Children love looking at books, bringing books to the childminder and requesting she reads to them. Children enjoy visits to a theatre where they take part in exciting activities and they enjoying meeting different children when they visit a drop-in group at a local park.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children feel settled and included as the childminder spends time supporting them. She gathers detailed information about each child and family, helping to ensure all their needs are met. Children are made to feel part of the family, and develop a strong sense of belonging. There

are some resources offered which encourage children's awareness and understanding of the wider world, such as books. The childminder uses the library to increase the resources she offers the children. The childminder has a sound understanding of appropriate behaviour management strategies which she uses consistently and she sets clear boundaries which helps children to understand her expectations and as a result, minded children are well behaved.

Friendly relationships are established with parents which enhance the care offered to children. The childminders procedures are discussed informally with parents, and information about their child's day shared verbally when parents come to collect. The childminder has some experience of caring for children with learning disabilities and/or difficulties and treats all children as individuals.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the welcoming environment provided for them, where space is organised appropriately to allow them to play and rest in comfort. Documentation is available and stored to ensure confidentiality is maintained, and in general is used to support children's ongoing safety and well-being. The registration certificate is currently not on display.

Procedures are in place to protect children from persons who have not been vetted. The childminder ensures children are always supervised by herself. She adheres to her registered numbers at all times, and keeps Ofsted informed of any changes. 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 devise and implement a complaints procedure including details of how to contact Ofsted. The childminder is aware of current procedures with regard to complaints and informs parents how they can complain if they wish to do so.

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):

- ensure registration certificate is displayed
- ensure written permission is sought from parents to seek emergency medical treatment

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