



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	510385
Inspection date	08 July 2005
Inspector	Tracey Marie Boland

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 November 1992. She lives with her husband and two adult children. They live in a house in Coundon, close to a variety of local shops and within walking distance to a local park. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The family have tropical fish and a snake which is securely housed and the children do not have access to it.

The childminder attends activity groups and parent and toddlers sessions which operate in the local area on a regular basis.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children develop an understanding of personal hygiene through consistent everyday routines and encouragement from the childminder. The spread of infection is minimised through regular cleaning and daily encouragement of hand washing.

Parents share information about their child and are kept informed about their day, completing relevant documentation regarding medicines and health care. Children's welfare is a priority and clear exclusion information is shared with parents, minimising the spread of infection through illness. Children benefit from maintaining their own routines including sleep and mealtimes, which reinforces their feeling of security and well-being. A first aid box is available, however, a valid first aid certificate should be obtained.

Children's individual dietary requirements are known and respected. The childminder has an understanding of healthy eating and offers children drinks throughout the day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are able to move freely around the areas of the home used and appropriate steps taken to ensure potential risks to children have been minimised. They benefit from care within a safe and secure environment. Children are developing an understanding of road safety and emergency evacuation procedures through consistent discussion and through practising the fire drill periodically. The childminders vigilance when visiting places of interest, ensures their continued safety.

Children access a range of well maintained resources which take into account their age and abilities. Toys are stored appropriately, are easily accessible and are checked regularly to ensure their continued suitability.

The childminder has a clear understanding of Child Protection guidance and the need to ensure the safety of the child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are involved in a wide range of activities and experiences to encourage their development. They settle well into the home and individual time is also incorporated into the day for stories and quiet time. Children are able to express their creativeness through art and craft activities and enjoy construction play, outdoor physical play, role

play, cold cooking and looking at books and completing puzzles. They benefit from regular social occasions which they gain from attending local groups and meeting with other childminders and their children.

Children are developing increasing independence through daily routines. Firm relationships are apparent between the childminder and the children and affection is readily given and received. Children's individual needs are well known and their development is supported well. Encouragement and support throughout daily routines and activities reinforces their understanding of colours, numbers and shapes.

Parents benefit from the time spent sharing information about their child's progress and achievements.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are gaining a knowledge about the wider world through festival celebrations, discussions, food tasting and through accessing a range of resources which reflect positive images of society, including disability.

Children's needs are discussed with parents and respected and children benefit from their individual needs being incorporated into the day. Parents are encouraged to share information about their child and are kept informed of their progress. Children display good behaviour and are encouraged to share and show consideration to each other. The childminders consistent approach to behaviour and her understanding of the individuals in her care ensures that behaviour is dealt with appropriately. The children respond positively to praise.

Parents are encouraged to share all relevant information about their child, which enables their individual needs to be met. Both parties benefit from daily verbal feedback, keeping each of them up to date with the children's progress and achievements. Any documentation completed within the day is shared, regarding health and medication.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

All documentation is up to date and held confidentially. Records completed are shared with the parents to ensure they are kept fully informed about their child's day and they are informed of any progress. Records are kept up to date and confidentiality is maintained.

The childminder provides a relaxed environment for the children and a good range of resources are easily accessible to the children. Strong relationships have been formed between herself and the children.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children attending.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection many resources have been purchased that reflect disability positively, such as books, puzzles, small world figures. Children have also been involved in adapting existing toys that have been broken, making walking sticks for them and mending them using bandages. The childminder intends to continue to develop her resources as she continues to mind.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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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):

- ensure a valid first aid certificate is maintained

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