

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY330763
Inspection date	04 June 2008
Inspector	Moreen Johnson
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 2006. She lives with her husband and four children aged 17, 15, 10 and eight years old, in the Clapton area of the London borough of Hackney. The areas of the childminder's home available to children are the living room, second reception room, one bedroom, kitchen and a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is available to collect children from the local school and attends local drop in groups and the library on a regular basis.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time and is currently caring for one child under five years old.

The childminder is a member of the Hackney Childminding Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

There are good accident and medication procedures in place. Parents sign to confirm that they have been notified when medication has been administered. They also give written consent to seek emergency medical treatment. Children are treated appropriately in the event of accidents because the childminder is trained in first aid and holds a current certificate and acts in the children's best interest when they are unwell. For example, when children are sick the childminder takes immediate action by contacting parents.

Children benefit from being cared for in a home that is maintained to a very good standard of cleanliness because the childminder follows a good daily cleaning routine. Children are protected from infection due to the childminder having effective hygiene procedures. For example, children with infectious illnesses are not allowed to attend and the childminder washes her hands after changing nappies, thus reducing the risk of cross infection. However, the childminder is not aware that the regulator must be notified about communicable diseases.

Children benefit from a healthy diet because the childminder promotes healthy eating well. Parents bring their children's food which the childminder stores in the fridge. Children are given a range of healthy snacks such as fresh fruits, raisins and bread sticks. They are given water and milk at regular intervals during the session. The childminder shares information with parents about their children's needs and respects their wishes regarding religious requirements.

Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills, for instance babies are encouraged to crawl and to walk with support from the childminder. Children are taken out daily for fresh air and to engage in activities playing in the sand pit and riding bikes.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, well organised home. There are a number of displays on the wall, such as children's art work and attractive childcare related posters. Children have access to a wide range of well maintained toys and equipment that is easily accessible to them. There is ample space available to allow children to move about safely and independently. Children have opportunities to rest comfortably. For example, a cot is available for babies and beds for older children.

Children's safety is promoted generally well. Although the childminder has taken a range of precautions to eliminate hazards, making the garden safe and appropriately fitting smoke alarms and the fire blanket. However, the notice board in the playroom poses a danger to children because it is not adequately secured to the wall and consequently falls to the ground. Children are protected in the event of an emergency as the childminder has a good emergency evacuation plan in place.

Children's well-being is not fully safeguarded. The childminder has an adequate awareness about the signs and symptoms that might be indicative physical abuse and neglect but has little understanding about the other categories of abuse. She is aware of her responsibility to report concerns about children to Ofsted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from good individual attention from the childminder. When children become restless they are held and cuddled until they are settled. Children receive good support and encouragement from the childminder who sits and engages in their play. Children are learning how things work, for instance they are shown how to use the vehicles with the garage and how to open the toy mobile phone.

Children are learning to develop their language and communication skills, because the childminder constantly talks to them. Whilst play with animal puppets the children are encouraged to mimic the different animal sounds, the children are fully engrossed in the activity and try to repeat the sounds.

Children demonstrate their independence as they confidently choose the toys that they want to play with. They thoroughly enjoy playing with a wide range of stimulating activities, for instance they kick their legs and wave their arms excitedly as they roll and catch the ball.

Children have good opportunities to mix with their peers and to develop an understanding of surroundings by visiting the library and drop in centres.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has a good understanding of equality issues. Children have access to a wide range of resources that reflect diversity, such as books, puzzles, play people and dressing up items. Children are encouraged to develop a positive attitude to others by mixing with people from other cultures when they visit local facilities. They also have opportunities to celebrate community festivals such as Eid, Christmas and Diwali. The childminder understands the benefit of working with parents, in order to meet the needs of children with learning difficulties or disabilities.

Children are developing an understanding of right and wrong because the childminder uses a range of suitable methods to manage children's behaviour, such as encouraging sharing and turn taking, giving time out and explanations as to why the behaviour is not acceptable.

Partnership with parents is good. The childminder provides parents with verbal and written daily feedback about the events of the day. Parents have the opportunity to record comments in the childminder's comments and complaint book. The childminder does not have a clear understanding of the requirements of the complaints with regards to her responsibility to investigating complaints made by parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a well organised home which is secure. Children enjoy their time at the childminder's home and freely move about to choose their own toys and play happily. Children are protected from unvetted persons because the childminder ensures that they are not left in the care of visitors. However, children are not fully protected from harm as the childminder is not aware of some of significant events that she must notify Ofsted about such as communicable diseases. She is also not fully aware of child protection issues.

All policies, records and procedures are in place. They are well organised and kept in a secure manner. The childminder ensures that her registration certificate is displayed in accordance with requirements. The childminder is aware of the importance of retaining records and demonstrates that she will keep them for a period that exceeds the required time.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. She has developed her knowledge and understanding of good childcare practice by attending a range of training courses.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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):

- develop knowledge and understanding of responsibilities for notifying Ofsted of significant changes and communicable diseases
- ensure that the notice board in the play room is secured so that it does not pose a danger to children
- develop knowledge and understanding of all categories of abuse and signs and symptoms that might indicate that a child is at risk
- develop a fuller understanding of the requirements regarding the complaints procedures.

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