

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY320455
Inspection date	24 June 2008
Inspector	Vivienne Rose
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 was registered in December 2005. She lives with her husband and three children aged 16, 13 and seven years. The family live in a three-bedroom house on a modern housing estate. The family home is situated in the Rotherhithe area of the London borough of Tower Hamlets. The areas used for childminding are the lounge, kitchen ground floor toilet and one bedroom on the first floor. There is a secure outdoor garden for play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding one child in her home on a part-time basis. She also picks up two children from their own home and takes them to nursery and collects them at the end of the day and returns them to their own home. There were no children present at the time of the inspection.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children and takes them to the local library, parks and parent and toddler group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how children's good health is promoted. She has satisfactory systems in place to gather information from parents regarding medical needs, dietary requirements and allergies. She describes how children would learn about personal hygiene through their normal daily routines and, for example, through discussions about cleaning their teeth. The childminder has a clear understanding of how to safeguard children's welfare by recording accidents and obtaining relevant permission for medication and emergency treatment. However, the written permission for emergency treatment is not in place for all the children in her care. The childminder has taken action to ensure children's wellbeing is safeguarded as she holds a current first aid qualification and demonstrates how she would deal with an accident on the premises.

From discussion and menu samples, the childminder demonstrates a satisfactory understanding of healthy eating, including the need to have drinking water accessible for children

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a clean, well maintained environment. The childminder demonstrates that she has good procedures in place to welcome parents and children into her home. She encourages children to spend time settling in to support their welfare and confidence. The childminder has provided a variety of toys and resources to support the needs of children under-fives years. Play resources are organised in a manner which helps to promote free choice. However, at present there are limited resources for older children over five years. The childminder demonstrates that she provides the children attending with sufficient toys that are easily accessible at their level as she provides low level storage. The childminder has taken action to ensure that risks in the home are minimised, so that children can play safely, for example, she provides safety gates and smoke detectors. She explains how she helps children to learn about their own safety through fire evacuation and road safety.

The childminder demonstrates a sound knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and the need to record incidents which occur outside of the home. Her written policy which is shared with parents enables her to suitably safeguard the welfare of the children in her care. However, she has a limited knowledge of the recent changes to procedures and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder explains that she provides a variety of activities for the children. She provides a written plan which is displayed for parents. The childminder demonstrates that she provides activities such as playing with musical instruments, singing and listening to stories and drawing. The childminder talks about encouraging children to learn their numbers, shapes and colours and providing them with opportunities for painting, dressing and role play to support their imagination and creativity. She explains that she takes children to the local park and play areas to expand their social skills and understanding of the world. The impact of these on the children's development is not clear as there are no records of what children can do at present.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates that she has a suitable understanding of ways to promote equality of opportunity. She provides some resources to promote children's understanding, for example, books with dual texts and dressing up clothes. However, there are fewer examples of resources which contain positive images of disability and gender. The childminder discusses how she would provide inclusive care for all children by observing and respecting their needs, talking to parents and working in partnership with professionals.

The childminder showed sound knowledge of behaviour management, giving satisfactory examples, of how she would approach a variety of situations to help children understand right from wrong. The childminder states that policies are available for parents. Policies seen include a complaints policy and child protection. The childminder explains that when parents enrol their child she asks about the child's likes and dislikes to enable her to provide continuity of care. The childminder states that she gives ongoing daily verbal feedback to parents to inform them about their child's day.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

From discussion the childminder indicates that she provides a welcoming environment for the children. She explains that she provides a plan of her week and takes children out to local groups on a regular basis. From discussions the childminder explains that she plans activities appropriately giving considerations their age and stage of development, also their eating and rest needs. The childminder demonstrates that she has attended various courses recently to develop her understanding and knowledge, these include child protection and the new Early Years Foundation Stage. The majority of records and documentation are maintained. However, the childminder does not have written parental permission in place for all the children cared for. There are limited resources in place to promote children's understanding and awareness of disability. The childminder needs to update her policy and knowledge of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards.

Overall, evidence suggests that the childminder meets the needs of the range of the children for whom she provides.

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 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):

- increase the opportunities for children to access resources which reflect diversity and disability
- ensure that written parental permission for emergency medication or treatment is requested for all the children that cared for.

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