

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY136872
Inspection date	16 May 2008
Inspector	S Campbell
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 inadequate – notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2002. She lives with her husband and three children aged eight, 12 and 15 in a residential area of Wantstead the London borough of Redbridge. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding two children under eight years part-time. The childminder drives to local schools to collect children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are cared for in a clean and well maintained environment. Children's health is generally well maintained because they are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times to minimise the spread of infection. The childminder has appropriate systems in place to

record accidents and medication given to children and she is fully aware of the procedures to follow to maintain continuity of care.

The childminder holds a current first aid certificate and the first aid box is adequately stocked. This means she is able to give appropriate care should children sustain an injury.

The children are given drinks throughout the day. Children's parents provide their meals and the childminder ensures their meals are appropriately stored to ensure it remains fresh. The childminder has verbally obtained information about children's dietary needs to ensure they receive the correct foods. However, this is not documented. Children receive drinks throughout the day, which prevents dehydration. Weather permitting, children benefit from daily physical exercise when playing in the garden. The children have access to a range of outdoor equipment to promote their gross motor skills, such as slide, swing, tractor, cars, bikes and prams.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

The childminder has some knowledge of the procedures to follow should she suspect that a child in her care is being abused or neglected. However, children's safety is compromised because the childminder does not have a secure knowledge and understanding regarding the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect.

The children are adequately supervised during the day to maximise their safety. However, not all electric sockets in areas used by children are inaccessible to minimise potential dangers. The childminder ensures children are adequately transported when taken out on outings in the car. Car and booster seats are used and she has obtained written parental consent for car travel. However, written parental consent has not been obtained for outings and the childminder does not hold public liability insurance.

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming home and as a result children are at ease and well settled. The children have access to a sufficient range of toys that provide adequate challenge and stimulation. The children are interested in the resources on offer and the childminder ensures they are regularly checked for their safety.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has developed good relationships with children, which builds upon their self-esteem and confidence. Children enjoy their time spent at the childminder's home. They laugh, smile and babble throughout the day as they play with the childminder. They enjoy playing with musical toys and the childminder continually talks to children to promote language development. Additionally she spends time singing nursery rhymes to children, for example 'wind the bobbin up'.

The children attend various groups within the local community, such as the local toy library and playgroup. This allows children to interact with their peers and others. The children take part in some planned activities to promote their creative skills, such as painting and play dough.

The childminder spends time playing with children to support their learning and interests, for example musical bumps and board games. She aids children with homework tasks to further extend their learning from school to the setting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder knows children well and has obtained most information about children's individual needs to ensure they are met. However, not all relevant information about children's background has been documented, for example first language, culture and religion. The children attending are from varying backgrounds and the childminder treats children with equal concern and respect. However, there are few resources on offer that promote positive images to further develop children's knowledge of the wider community.

The childminder uses appropriate methods to manage children's behaviour according to their level of understanding, for example explanation and distraction. The children are well behaved and the childminder continually praises children for their efforts.

The childminder verbally shares information with parents on a regular basis about children's progress. She obtains appropriate information about children's routine to promote continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The children are not fully safeguarded because the childminder has limited knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and she fails to ensure her certificate of registration is displayed. This is a breach of regulation and as a result the childminder does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

The organisation of the day enables the childminder to spend individual time with children to support their development. She maintains appropriate documentation to record children's attendance. This promotes children well-being while at the setting.

The childminder will be attending relevant child care courses to further develop her knowledge and understanding. Documentation in relation to childminding activities are organised and readily available for inspection.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection three actions were made. The childminder now maintains a record of children's attendance and has improved her knowledge of the National Standards to promote the outcomes for children. However, the childminder has limited understanding of child protection issues and this remains an action.

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- display certificate of registration
- develop knowledge and understanding of the sign and symptoms of abuse and neglect

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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