

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY362795
<b>Inspection date</b>	21 July 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Sue Boylan
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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 good. 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 2007. She lives with her husband and three children aged 12, 11 and eight years in the London borough of Sutton. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play. The childminder walks or drives to the school to take and collect children. She goes to the park, library and toddler group.

The childminder is registered to care for three children and is currently minding one child on a part-time basis.

The childminder holds a relevant child care qualification.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The environment is clean and children receive good support to develop personal hygiene. A poster displayed in the bathroom encourages children with hand washing. Children's health is

protected because they do not attend if unwell. There are good opportunities for children to be outside in the fresh air, for example, playing daily in the garden, weather permitting and going to the park. The childminder has completed a first aid course which ensures children are treated quickly in the event of an accident or minor injury.

Children are beginning to understand the importance of healthy eating, for instance, they choose their fruit for snack, wash it and sit to enjoy strawberries, grapes and blue berries. They enjoy going to the local shops to name and pick out the vegetables. Children take an interest in food and get involved in making a pizza or shepherds pie. There is water available to drink at all times, children help themselves, which helps to prevent dehydration and encourages independence.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a well resourced play room. They can self select from a range of good quality toys and equipment. Children have a sense of belonging because photographs of their family are on display. Their independence is encouraged because all areas used for childminding is easily accessed. Children's safety is protected because the childminder supervises closely. She takes appropriate steps to prevent any potential hazards.

Children learn how to keep safe, for example, holding hands when out and not going out the front door until told to. There are good fire safety precautions, for instance, a written escape plan, smoke alarms linked into the mains electric and a fire blanket. As children practise the emergency routine on a regular basis they are familiar with the procedure. Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder has good understanding of child protection. She has a written policy and knows who to contact if she has concerns a child is being abused or neglected.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are comfortable in the childminder's company. Their self-esteem is fostered because she responds to their needs with affection and encouragement. Children interact positively and enjoy a conversation, for example, deciding what to make with the wooden train set. They love to help with household tasks, such as hanging out the clothes to dry and washing up the plates and cups. There are good opportunities to be creative, for example, making play dough bugs and finger painting. Children enjoy books and like to sit quietly with the childminder to look at a favourite story, 'Kipper', turning the pages and talking about the pictures. They are beginning to use their imaginations, for instance, dressing up and building a zoo from Duplo bricks.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are very much treated as part of the family. They are valued as individuals and benefit from the structured but flexible routine. There are good opportunities for children to experience the local community with regular trips to the park, library, toddler group and shops. However, there are limited activities and resources for children to explore the wider world.

Children are cared for in a stimulating environment where they are happy and settled. The childminder uses effective strategies to encourage positive behaviour. She praises at every opportunity which contributes to children's emotional well-being. There is good partnership with parents. The childminder is friendly and works closely with parents to ensure she is clear about children's individual needs, likes and dislikes. There is detailed information about the provision and verbal feedback is offered daily, this promotes consistency in care.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children thrive because there is good adult support. The environment is well organised and suitable for the purpose of childminding. Children's safety is protected because they are not left with any person not vetted, another registered childminder covers in the event of an emergency. There is a comprehensive selection of policies and procedures. The required records are maintained so children's health, safety and well-being is met. Overall the childminder meets the needs of the range of 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 childminder or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The childminder 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 good. 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):

- improve the selection of resources and activities that reflect positive images of today's society.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)