



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	139683
Inspection date	01 November 2005
Inspector	Cheryl Walker

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since 1999.

She lives with her husband and young daughter in a house in Sutton, close to local shops, schools and park. All areas of the property are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The family have guinea pigs as pets which are housed in the garage.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She is

registered to provide care for a maximum of 5 children and is currently caring for 3 children, all on a part-time basis.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through positive role modelling and explanation by the childminder, for example they are gently reminded to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Children enjoy a healthy, balanced diet that is adapted to meet their individual needs. They sit comfortably at the table for meals and chat sociably together whilst eating.

Young children rest and sleep securely, according to their individual needs, in a travel cot which is placed in the childminder's bedroom. Children develop good co-ordination and physical skills through a wide range of physical activities including tumble tots and regular trips to the local park. Children are cared for by a childminder that is trained to administer first aid and who demonstrates a good understanding of appropriate health and hygiene policies and procedures. This enables appropriate care to be given in the event of an accident.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean, well maintained environment. The successful organisation of good quality toys and equipment means that children can move around safely and freely to independently access available resources from low level storage boxes.

Children benefit from the childminder's strong awareness of safety issues. Clear boundaries and routines are in place which enable children to play independently and become aware of their own safety limits. Gentle reminders and age appropriate explanations encourage children's understanding of possible hazards.

Children's welfare is protected because the childminder understands her responsibilities concerning child protection and is fully aware of signs or behaviours that may cause her concern.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very settled and confident in the childminder's home. They relate well to the childminder and benefit from warm and close relationships with her. Children enjoy their time at the childminder's home because she plans a range of activities and outings that they are interested in and that are well matched to their individual

needs.

Children play happily with each other and with the childminder, who gives them effective praise and encouragement. They acquire new skills such as putting puzzle pieces together and sharing toys, through skilful guidance and support. They concentrate well and exhibit pleasure and pride in completing tasks.

Children's learning is extended because the childminder involves herself in their play and asks them questions which prompt further thought and imagination.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are highly valued and respected as individuals. They develop an awareness and respect of others through a meaningful range of activities and outings. Information about their individual needs is sought from parents at the start of a placement and used to enable the provision of consistent care. The childminder has experience of caring for children with special needs and is sensitive to both children and parents' needs.

Children behave well and play harmoniously together. Their self esteem is raised by excellent use of praise and encouragement by the childminder.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care is enhanced by efficient and effective organisation. The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of childcare and shows commitment towards updating her practice through further training opportunities. She understands and complies with regulatory requirements and is in the process of compiling written information for parents.

Overall, the childminder meets the needs of the children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to increase the toys and equipment that positively reflect disability. A small number of resources have been obtained or made which help to increase children's knowledge and understanding of disability and difference.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection. 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 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):

- continue to develop the policies and written information regarding the childminding service.

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