

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY258031
Inspection date	01 May 2008
Inspector	Lorna Lorraine Hall
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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2007. She lives with her husband and two school age children in a two bedroom flat situated on the first floor of a large housing estate close to Putney common. The home is within walking distance of local shops and transport links. The whole ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There is no direct access to an enclosed garden for outside play, but can walk to a local playground.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of two children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five. The childminder walks to a local school to take and collect children.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted through effective hygiene routines that are consistently carried out. Children have individual flannels to wash and dry their hands. The home is hygienically maintained so that the children can crawl on the floor and explore in a clean environment.

Effective systems are in place to ensure medical and personal information about the children are discussed and recorded thoroughly. Accidents to the children are dealt with appropriately because the childminder has a complete first aid kit and up to date first aid training. During the discussion, the childminder demonstrates that in an emergency she is able to competently administer first aid to the children.

Emphasis is placed on promoting the children's good health through physical exercise. Everyday the children have opportunity to enjoy outdoor play. They participate in challenging physical activities. They benefit through good provision for their rest.

Children are well nourished because the childminder works in partnership with parents to ensure the children's individual dietary needs are met. The childminder has attended food handling training and is up to date with food handling practices. Children have easy access to fresh drinking water and fruit throughout the day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe and well organised environment. There is ample space for older children to access activities from the floor or from the table. Younger children can sit comfortably and play with a large soft sensory activity ring. The main play room is attractively arranged with brightly coloured educational posters. Children play imaginatively with a tea set, plastic food and soft toys, and self select items from low level cupboards.

The good organisation ensures children can access learning resources freely and safely. Older children can sit and complete a puzzle, look at a book or use the computer. Child-size tables and chairs are some of the large resources available to promote their independence.

Good attention is given to ensure that the learning resources are age appropriate to promote the children's all-round development. Learning resources are changed regularly to ensure the children are sufficiently challenged and stimulated.

Effective systems are in place to promote the children's understanding of safety indoors and outdoors. Unused electric sockets are covered and toys are checked to ensure they are safe for the children to handle. Within the home the childminder ensures that she complies with fire safety recommendations. As an extra safety measure the childminder carries the children's contact details with her on outings. During discussion, the childminder identified areas that could be used in an emergency escape. The procedure is supported with clear written instructions.

Through discussion, children learn about safety on the road.

Parents give written consent for their children to participate in activities outside the home. This promotes the children's welfare.

Children are protected from harm through the childminder's good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. The childminder has good documentation to refer to, should a concern arise.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's enjoyment and achievements are promoted through the provision of well planned play activities. The childminder has a professional childcare qualification and has experience of working with large groups of children. Children make progress in their learning because they are actively involved. Through interaction, the childminder ensures that all the children spend their time purposefully and enjoy learning at their own pace.

Children move imaginatively to music playing in the background. The childminder communicates with the children on their level; everything she does is clearly explained to the children and she waits for them to respond. Visits to the local library are an integral part of the weekly activity.

The children are confident, happy and secure in their environment. The daily routine means that they can be active or quiet according to their needs. The childminder uses the Birth to three matters framework as a guide to ensure that the activities are age appropriate and sustains the children's interest. Their self-esteem is promoted well through praise and encouragement.

It is evident that the children relate well to the childminder as they make regular eye contact and hold their hand out for the childminder to cuddle them.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's understanding of other cultures is fostered in a meaningful way because they have access learning resources which reflect diversity such as books and play people. Their self esteem is greatly promoted because their parents give good information about their care, customs and beliefs. There is a written equal opportunity policy that is shared with parents.

The childminder has a positive attitude with regards to working with parents and others to provide any special services required. The childminder has a good understanding of how resources could be adapted to meet individual learning needs.

The children are well behaved because they are engrossed in interesting activities. The childminder's good understanding of behaviour management ensures effective behaviour management strategies are in place. Time out and talking to the children about the consequences of their behaviour are some of the methods used to promote acceptable behaviour. The childminder states that in all instances she would work in partnership with parents to ensure that behaviour is consistently managed.

Children's care is successfully promoted through the childminder's good relationship with the parents. Parents are asked to complete a written agreement which sets out the childminder's business arrangements. Parents are asked to give good information about themselves and the needs of their children. This information is used to provide a service suitable to meet individual

care and learning needs. High priority is given to communicating with parents to ensure consistency of care. New parents can spend time settling their children before leaving them in the sole care of the childminder, this promotes the children's welfare. The information parents receive about Ofsted's complaints procedure needs updating in line with current regulations.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder organises her day to ensure that the children are healthy, safe, enjoy and achieve and make a positive contribution in a well organised environment. The good organisation ensures that the children have opportunity to enjoy structured and free play several times during the session. The childminder attends training when she can and regularly reads appropriate books and magazines for ideas to enhance the service she provides. Written information about the children is stored confidentially, up-to-date and generally meets regulations.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not Applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last 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 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):

- update the information parents receive about Ofsted's complaint 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