



Inspection report for early years provision

**Unique Reference Number** 107368  
**Inspection date** 21 September 2005  
**Inspector** Michelle Smith

**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](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 has been registered since 1994. She lives with her adults children. They live in a terraced 3 bedroom flat on the first floor of a large house, close to local shops and schools. A limited area of the premises is used for childminding. There is a large lounge with direct access to the hall, kitchen and bathroom. There is a fenced area available for outdoor play. The family have two cats.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She is registered to care for

three children at any one time and is currently minding three children all of whom attend on a part - time basis.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities which contribute to their health. Children access regular outdoor activities to help them develop their co-ordination. For example, as they dig in the garden and ride on wheeled toys. Regular Visits to local parks and playgroups improve children's physical skills. They become increasingly aware of the way activity affects their bodies and know when they need a drink or a rest. The children do benefit from the childminders good understanding of how children learn and importance of accessing activities, which are age appropriate and meets their individual needs. For example, creative activities making candles, which provides challenge, support and confidence to try out new skills.

Children are cared for in a warm and adequate home, where children are developing a understanding of good hygiene and personal care. Their clear understanding of why they must wash their hands after handling the cat, before eating meals and after using the toilets reduces the risk of cross contamination.

Children are developing a understanding of healthy eating. They have regular access to drinking water and milk through out the day. The childminder provides children with well balanced meals and snacks that appeal to children and meet their dietary needs. Children food intake is shared with parents. For example, a three weekly menu is available for parents. Children feed themselves, in which they are becoming independent and confidently meet their own personal needs. Children's good health is valued and promoted by the good level of care. The clear policies and procedures protect children from the spread of infection.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children move around the home safely, where risks are identified and minimised. This mean they are able to move around freely and independently. The childminder gives priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe and to maintain safety outside the home. However children safety is compromised in the garden, due to dangerous substances and accessible plastic panel for the greenhouse.

Children enjoy a range of good quality toys and equipment, which meets safety standards. The childminder supervises children during play and make sure they are safe and access toys that are age appropriate and meets their individual needs and interest. The childminder has most required procedures and documents in place to ensure children welfare is safeguarded. For example, the childminder has a secure understanding of child protection procedures in line with the local Area Child

Protection Committee procedures. However her first aid has expired, she is waiting for confirmation of attendance to complete the course. Children enjoy outings using London Transport. However written consent has not been obtained for outings and using London Transport from parents.

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

The provision is good.

Children settle well at the childminder's house. They move around the home confidently and make themselves at home. Children do benefit from regular opportunities to visit different playgroups and local parks, by which children are developing good social skills. Children do socialise with others and beginning to understand the importance of turn taking and play co-operatively. Children become independent as they choose between a variety of toys, books, role play and activities which appeal to their personal interest. The childminder does not use the birth to three matters framework. However activities and play opportunities provided are age appropriate and promotes younger children's learning. Children enjoy and sing along to rhymes and songs. Children access a range of different creative activities using different resources. For example, children have a scrap book with all of their work, that they do take home and share with parents. Children enjoy their time at the childminders. For example, the child shared that she does enjoy coming to the childminder. Quote" I like coming to play." Children are developing a sense of belonging. The childminders takes children interest into account. For example, a child likes accessing a lot of creative activities. The child participated eagerly in making candles from junk modelling, she talked and interacted with the childminder all the way through the activity.

Children spend their time purposefully. They enjoy exploring a wide range of activities which contributes to their creativity, such as planting vegetables, listening to music, baking, and model making. Children do benefit from opportunities to dance with ribbons, by which they are developing spatial awareness and body co- ordination.

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

The provision is good.

The childminder provides a meaningful range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider community, which increase children's awareness of a diversity. For example, they celebrate and investigate Christmas and Divali. Children interact and socialise with children and others of different cultures. However the children do not benefit from opportunity to develop a positive attitude towards disability, due to no provision that reflects images of disability. Children learn about their local community as they visit different local places. For example, outings to local parks, shops and library.

Children are valued are respected as individuals. The childminder follows a well organised routine, that meets the needs of the children. Children make themselves at home, confidently deciding what to do and independently taking themselves to the

toilet. Children benefit from time to relax as well as to be active. Good relationships have been established between the childminder and children. For example, during a activity the child and childminder laugh together and discuss favourite colours. Children are well behaved and feel a sense of belonging, due to the consistent boundaries set by the childminder. Children are beginning to understand nature, through opportunities to plant their own seeds in their own growing patch. Children do investigate their natural surrounding, through a range of different play experience. The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn, by which children are becoming competent learners. Partnership with parents is good. Children benefit from the well established relationships built with the childminder, that ensures continuity of care. For example, information is shared regards to children daily activities and routine.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The children feel at home and at ease with the well organised environment. This means they are confident to initiate and extend their own play. Policies and procedures are used effectively to promote the welfare, care and learning of the children. They are shared regularly with parents to keep them well informed about the service, activities and any changes. This contributes to continuity in the children's care. Children do benefit from the systems in place to monitor and keep children safe and to enable good progress in all areas of their development. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Since that last inspection, the childminder has secured children welfare, made the environment more welcoming and all records available. All household members have completed CRB disclosures. She has made the premises presentable for the children and parents. She has obtained a first aid box. She has obtained public liability insurance. She has devise a system for her childminding records, that maintain confidentiality. However she does not have a valid first aid certificate.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints since the last inspection

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## 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):

- complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children.
- make sure the garden is made safe.
- make sure consent is obtained for outings and use of London Transport.
- make sure children have access to resources that reflects positively towards disability.

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