



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	137481
<b>Inspection date</b>	25 November 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Daphne Prescott

<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 1997. She lives with her husband and four children aged 11 and 14 years and two adult children in Harlesden in the London Borough of Brent. Part of the 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 five all day and one child over five after school.

The childminder walks and drives to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler group. The family has no pets.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as the childminder sustains a good level of cleanliness throughout her home. They are well protected from unnecessary illness as the childminder has procedures in place to help stop the spread of germs; such as developing good self-care skills, as children are encouraged to wash their hands before and after meals and after using the bathroom. They are safeguarded by the childminder's sound understanding of emergency first aid. Appropriate policies and procedures are in place for first aid, accidents and medication, which ensures children are well cared for.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. The childminder takes account of the wishes of parents and their choices to provide meals and snacks. Young babies are fed in warm comfortable surroundings, they are happy and content at feeding time, because they are cuddled by the childminder whilst drinking their bottled milk. Wiggling their hands and legs, as the childminder smiles and responds to their facial expressions by chatting to them.

Children participate in a wide range of outdoor play activities, for fresh air and exercise which promotes their wellbeing and helps them to acquire good physical skills. They have daily opportunities to attend local toddler groups and walks in the parks, playing games and collecting leaves and conkers.

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

The provision is good.

The childminder's home is welcoming for children. The space has been organised to help children to explore independently and to rest, eat and play comfortably. A range of good quality furniture and equipment is readily available to meet the children's individual needs. Children are able to access a good range of play equipment that is in good condition and clean.

Children are safe and secure on the premises as the childminder has taken thorough steps to ensure her home is safe. For example, safety gates are in place to prevent children having unsupervised access to the kitchen and upstairs. The childminder gives high priority to making sure children will be safe in an emergency. She has devised a detailed written plan. This helps to ensure that children are escorted to safety quickly. She gives good priority to helping children understand how to keep safe whilst outdoors such as holding hands and walking together.

Children's welfare is protected through the childminder's good understanding of her role and responsibility in child protection. She understands the procedures to follow if

she is concerned about a child.

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

The provision is good.

Young babies are relaxed and comfortable in the care of the childminder. The interaction between the childminder and the young babies is very warm and affectionate and they receive lots of individual attention and cuddles. Consequently, they are very happy and contented in their environment.

They play happily as the childminder offers them toys to keep them occupied. Such as, playing with toys that make different sounds. They squeal with delight and smile when the childminder plays with them and relish in the attention given. They are beginning to make early attempts at finding their voice, they make sounds to make contact as they gurgle and respond to the childminder's voice. They are beginning to develop social skills as they gain attention in variety of ways, by wiggling their toes, inclining their head and making eye contact as the childminder plays with them.

The childminder encourages children to develop and enhance their learning by providing a good range of activities. For example, children have access to dressing up and home corner equipment which helps develop their imagination. They have opportunities to develop their listening and language skills by the childminder talking, singing and reading books with them.

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

The provision is good.

Young babies are happy at the childminder's home. They enjoy close relationships with the childminder. Their individual needs are met because the childminder discusses with the parents their care needs and she spends time getting to know the children well. In their daily routine young babies are able to rest or play according to their individual needs; these are child led and ensures their wellbeing is supported.

Children with special needs are welcome in the childminder's home as she has a positive attitude towards this area of childcare. Through the variety of resources provided, children are developing a positive view of the wider world; such as, children have access to a variety of books and dolls that represent people of different cultures. The childminder uses age-appropriate and positive strategies to manage any difficulties that may arise. She gives the children praise and encouragement when they have done something well which helps develop their confidence and self-esteem.

Children are very happy and content because the childminder has good relationships with the parents. They work together to meet the child's individual care and developmental needs. Children's routines and activities are shared with parents daily as the childminder records their daily activities. Good documentation is shared with parents so they are well informed about the care their child is receiving.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Young babies feel comfortable within the childminder's home environment. She organises the day to include a good variety of indoor and outdoor play activities. This helps to ensure the progress of children's individual development and learning. They receive lots of warm, individual attention to promote their emotional wellbeing.

The childminder has in place well organised documentation which includes policies and procedures which are used effectively and helps to contribute to the safety and welfare of the children. The required documentation is in place. Although, children's hours of attendance is not recorded; which helps to ensure that attendance records are maintained accurately on the children. The required checks have not been carried out on a household member who is over the age of sixteen.

Children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder as she has a sound knowledge and understanding of caring for children and she meets their welfare and care needs effectively. Children receive continuity of care as their routines and achievements are shared between parents and the childminder. This means, the childminder does meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides for.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the childminder agreed to comply with Local Area Child Protection Committee procedures, request that parents sign written consent forms for emergency treatment and update knowledge of first aid for babies and young children. Ensure that a daily attendance register is in place.

The childminder has gained knowledge of the Local Area Child Protection Procedures and request that parents sign written consent forms for emergency treatment. She has an up-to-date first aid certificate. These help to safe guard children's welfare. The daily attendance register has not been maintained.

## **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):

- maintain a register of children's daily attendance, showing their hours of attendance
- ensure that persons over the age of 16 years living in the household undergo a criminal records check.

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