

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY304716
Inspection date	19 August 2008
Inspector	Suzanne Joyce Stedman
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 2005. She lives with her two children aged nine and eleven years in Walthamstow, London. The whole flat, excluding two bedrooms of the childminder's house is used for childminding.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding five children, one of whom is full-time, the other children are cared for part-time. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent/toddler group. The family has a cat.

The childminder supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are well protected from cross-infection and their good health is promoted because the childminder implements good hygiene practices. For example, children use individual towels to prevent cross-infection and there is a 'no shoe' policy in the home. The childminder has a sick child policy which is shared with the parents. All of the required documentation to promote the children's good health is in place.

Children benefit from a healthy diet provided by the childminder and they enjoy trying different fruit which they choose for themselves when out shopping. Drinks are made available throughout the day. The childminder ensures that she is aware of allergies and other special dietary requirements so that children's individual needs are met.

There are good opportunities for children to take part in physical activity and develop their skills because the childminder plans a good range of activities and play opportunities. For example, she takes children to the local parks and outside areas, they enjoy playing on the apparatus in the park and exercising in the home. Children benefit from fresh air and exercise each day which promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Children are learning about the importance of a good hygiene practices as they are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and after using the bathroom and before they help cook or prepare food, preventing germs spreading.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a very child friendly home which promotes their sense of security. Their all-round development is promoted well because the childminder has a wide range of toys and play materials. These are stored at child height so they are able to access resources promoting independence and choice. Equipment and play resources are checked regularly to ensure they remain safe for children to use. Children play in a home in which the childminder carries out risk assessments daily.

The home is welcoming to children as their art work is displayed alongside appropriate posters for children and information for parents in the lounge-diner. This makes the children feel at home and that their art work is valued. Children are kept safe on outings and practise road safety during planned activities at a local pre-school.

Children are well protected because the childminder has completed safeguarding children training and is aware of local contact details. The childminder is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and the appropriate procedures to follow if she has any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children benefit from the superb and meaningful interaction of their caring childminder. Children receive excellent support because the childminder plans a broad range of experiences to promote their all-round development. The childminder knows the children well and makes useful

observations of what they can do to help her plan stimulating activities, to help them achieve their next steps and fulfil their potential.

Children's language development is promoted extremely well and at every opportunity. This is because the childminder tunes in to the children's development very effectively. Children enjoy everyday routines as the childminder chats with them, encouraging them to vocalise and to link words with actions. They are encouraged to enjoy books and sit contentedly listening to a story about Tigers and Monsters.

Children's playfulness is promoted as they role play dressing up as Bob the Builder and play cooking with pasta in the play kitchen. They recognise different colours, size and numbers while participating in cutting and sticking activities. The childminder effectively encourages children to be creative when playing with sand and water, art and crafts, cooking and other sensory experiences. Children explore and investigate messy play through a range of activities both in and out of the home.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children have good relationships with the childminder because she makes them feel welcome in her home by displaying their art work in the dining room and providing them with their own individual towels giving them a sense of belonging. They are all treated as individuals and with respect by the childminder, which promotes their sense of self-worth effectively. She is considerate when dealing with children's personal needs and allows them space to develop as individuals.

Children are provided with equality of opportunity in their everyday routines. They have good opportunities to become aware of wider society by looking at books, playing with puzzles, small world people with differing abilities and watching appropriate television programmes. They celebrate festivals such as Christmas and Easter.

Children's good behaviour is promoted through lots of positive language and encouragement. Subsequently, children are well behaved, polite and helpful.

The children benefit from seeing the positive relationships between the childminder and their parents and carers. The childminder actively promotes an open two-way communication with all parents to ensure that she can offer consistent and good quality care. Parents are provided with a good range of information promoting the childminder's professionalism, however, additional information is required relating to her current complaints procedure. The childminder also keeps an all about me book for all the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are protected from non-vetted persons because the childminder has been vetted and that non-vetted persons do not have unsupervised access to children. Children's needs are met very effectively because the childminder ensures that the required adult to child ratios are met. She has completed the introduction to childminding practice and attended other relevant training including first aid and British Sign Language.

Children's needs are met very effectively because the childminder organises space and resources well to promote the children's welfare and learning.

The childminder maintains all of the required records for the efficient and safe management of the childminding service. The childminder ensures that all documentation about individual children is shared with their parents.

Overall children's needs are met.

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 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):

- ensure parents are provided with the appropriate address regarding the complaints procedure.

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