

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY365896
Inspection date	12 August 2008
Inspector	Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi
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 children aged two years old. The family live in a four bedroom house in a residential area of Coulsdon. All of the house is used for childminding. A garden is available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for four children under eight years old, and there is currently one child on roll.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She has a relevant childcare qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn about simple good hygiene practices when they wash their hands before they eat and after playing outside. They are protected from the risk of cross-infection as the childminder makes sure they have access to liquid soap and use their own individual towel.

Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks that meet their nutritional needs. They enjoy sandwiches and fruit salad for lunch and later on a home cooked tea. They take part in regular physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle. The childminder takes them out every day to local parks and playgrounds or to practise their physical skills at a soft play area. Children's health is protected because the childminder has clear systems in place to keep records of their health needs, any accidents they have and any medicine they need to be given. She can respond appropriately to minor accidents or injuries as she has a current first aid certificate.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a child-centred, welcoming environment with facilities to meet their needs. They have easy access to a good variety of toys and play materials that are clean and in good condition, which ensures they can play safely. Their risk of accidental injury is minimised because the childminder takes effective steps to reduce potential hazards. She conducts regular risk assessments of the premises and takes precautions, such as restricting access to the kitchen and stairs with safety gates and covering electrical sockets, as well as supervising children closely at all times. Children learn to keep themselves safe when the childminder explains to them why they should not jump on the furniture, or when they take part in a fire evacuation practise. Children's welfare is safeguarded because the childminder has an understanding of child protection issues and is aware of her responsibilities towards the children in her care. She has attended safeguarding children training and knows what to do if she is worried about a child. However, she does not currently have local guidance and contact details readily accessible to refer to if required.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled and content in the childminder's home. They have good relationships with the childminder, who is warm and affectionate towards them and attentive to their needs. Children enjoy a cuddle with the childminder when they wake from their nap, before confidently helping themselves to toys and play materials and eagerly joining their friends in a game. Children take part in a broad variety of activities, experiences and outings that support their development and learning. The childminder plans activities around a monthly theme and has begun to make observations of children's progress and achievements. Children benefit from daily outings to local playgroups and parks, or a visit to the farm or zoo. At the childminder's home they enjoy experiences such as riding bikes, creative activities, role play, exploring a treasure box or making cakes. The childminder encourages children's learning through everyday activities and routines. Children learn about shapes as they eat sandwiches cut into stars and squares, and talk about the colour of their bib or their flannel. They enjoy creating pictures using leaves they collected in the park, and their self-esteem is fostered when the childminder praises their achievements.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed into the setting and valued as individuals, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The childminder makes sure she gathers detailed information about children before they start, to ensure she can meet their needs. She ensures activities are suitable for the children she cares for and that they can all take part at their own

level. Children play with books and toys that reflect the wider community, which helps them develop a positive attitude towards diversity. The childminder has a calm approach and is clear about the boundaries and expectations of the setting. She intervenes quickly to resolve any disputes between children and reminds them to share and take turns. This helps children learn to play harmoniously together. Children benefit from good relationships between the childminder and their parents. They talk every day to exchange information and the childminder also uses a daily feedback sheet to provide details of meals, routines and activities. The childminder discusses all aspects of children's care with parents, however, parents have not yet been asked to confirm in writing their agreement for the childminder to transport their child in a car.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder has completed the required childminding training and makes good use of local courses to develop her knowledge and skills. All required documentation is in place that promotes the health, safety and well-being of minded children, and additional information, policies and procedures are available for parents. Records are well organised and readily accessible. The home is planned around the children's needs, with ample space to play in the living room and playroom, and safety precautions are in place to enable children to move around freely and easily access toys and resources independently. This means children can make the most of the play and learning opportunities provided. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

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):

- make sure that local child protection guidance and contact details are readily available to refer to if required

- make sure all relevant consents from parents are in place

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