



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	138566
Inspection date	12 January 2006
Inspector	Helen Ann Woods

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since May 1999. She is registered to care for the maximum number of 6 children under 8 years and is currently caring for 6 children aged under 8 years. The childminder's adult daughter, who does not live in the home, is a named assistant on her registration.

The childminder lives with her husband and teenage daughter in a residential area of Ruislip in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The premises is situated close to local schools, shops, parks and public transport routes. The whole of her premises including an enclosed garden, is used for childminding.

The family have two dogs and a cat. The dogs are kept in a fenced off area in the garden.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean healthy environment where procedures are in place to maintain good levels of hygiene through daily routines such as hand washing, nappy changing and making sure that toys are kept clean. Policies and procedures are in place for first aid, accidents and medication ensuring children are well cared for. They are protected from unnecessary illness as they do not attend if they are contagious.

Meal and snack times follow children's home routine as discussed with parents. Healthy and nutritious meals and snacks are freshly prepared by the childminder. Children are developing well physically through daily opportunities to walk, run and climb on outdoor play equipment in the park and in the garden. They become increasingly aware of the way activity affects their bodies, knowing when they need to drink or have a rest after running. Outings to the park and local toddler group offer a wider range of physical activities and social interaction with peers.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder's close supervision of children maintains their safety. She keeps areas of the home secure and ensures safety equipment is in place to minimise risks. Her two dogs are kept in a secure pen to keep the children safe when playing in the garden. Children learn to adopt safe practise; such as, not running indoors and holding on to the pushchair when walking outdoors.

There is a suitable range of good quality resources available, which meet the learning needs, and interests of the minded children. They are easily accessible which enables children to make their own choices and extend their learning through play.

A clear child protection policy safeguards children's welfare and the childminder shares this with parents. She has a good understanding of all issues and is aware of the appropriate procedures to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time with the childminder and achieve well because she is highly skilled and has exceptional understanding of early years development to provide high quality care. Children are creative through exploration as they choose from a wide

selection of art and craft materials, a treasure basket, books, soft toys and puzzles. They respond to challenges with enthusiasm and imagination to actively develop new experiences; such as, creating models and various types of art work to display in the setting.

Children are happy and eager in their play because the childminder is sensitive towards their individual needs; for example, encouraging and praising their achievements. A close and caring relationship with the childminder increases children's confidence and communication skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's self-esteem is fostered through positive interaction with the childminder. They receive lots of praise and encouragement as she involves herself with their play; children feel valued and confident to try new experiences. Clear consistent house-rules, based around safety and respect for property and people, are in place, which enable children to develop self-discipline. Children mix socially with others encouraging them to learn respect for differing cultures and abilities. The childminder's good understanding of children's learning and developmental needs ensure she meets any child's special needs.

The childminder and parents form a close working relationship that ensures continuity of care for children. Parents receive copies of all policies and procedures and all relevant recordings concerning their child. The childminder maintains confidentiality at all times.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children experience a high level of care and support, which aids their development, because the childminder organises her home and childminding well. The childminder updates her knowledge and children benefit from her experience gained working with children in differing settings over many years for example, by attending a child protection course with the National Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and renewing her first aid certificate which expired the end of last year.

The childminder keeps parents well informed about the care that is provided and all documents are in place according to regulation. They are stored securely and made available for inspection.

The childminder keeps parents well informed about the care that is provided. The childminder meets the needs for the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

No recommendations were made at the last inspection; however, the childminder has

added extra play space by having a conservatory built to the back of her house which means that the range of activities offered has been increased.

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):

- ensure first aid certificate, that includes caring for infants and young children, is renewed in 2006.

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