



## Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | EY301633          |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 20 September 2005 |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Nighat Ghani      |

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <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 satisfactory. 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 2005. She lives with her three children aged 19, 16 and 2 years. They live in a house in Manchester within walking distance of pre-schools, schools, shops and parks. The whole of the ground floor that includes the living room, front room and kitchen are used for childminding. Additionally, the box room and bathroom on the upper floors are available to children. There is a front garden available for outside play.

There are four children on roll who attend on a part time basis.

The childminder attends a pre-school drop-in on a regular basis. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean and welcoming house. They benefit from the childminder taking positive steps to prevent the spread of infection. For example, her nappy changing practice includes cleaning the mat and wiping her hands after each nappy change. Children's health is compromised by the childminder not encouraging children to wash their hands before snack times and young children can not access drinking water to quench their thirst.

Children participate in physical play and younger children practise climbing and balancing skills. Walks in the local area and outings to parks provide opportunities for healthy exercise and physical play on large equipment promotes children's co-ordination and muscular control.

Children's health and dietary needs are protected in accurate records and routines are acknowledged. The childminder is vigilant with children's allergies and these are taken into consideration when preparing snacks. Children have medication at the parents request and with signed consent and the recording of medication given ensures children do not have an incorrect dosage. Information about children's intake, sleep and nappy change is recorded in a diary which is shared with parents at the end of each day.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder carries out regular risk assessments both indoors and outdoors to ensure children's safety. The risk of children's accidental injury is minimised by the use appropriate safety features such as safety gates and a fireguard and most areas of the home are safe; however, the lock on the bathroom door is accessible to children, baby equipment when not in use is left in the room and the front garden gate does not have a lock which poses a safety hazard to the children. She is vigilant in checking that the toys are safe and suitable for the ages and stages of development. For example, special care is taken to make sure that babies and toddlers do not have access to the other toys or other articles which may cause them harm.

Children are able to move around freely and independently. There is a good range of furniture available; allowing children to sit comfortably when relaxing and having meals. There is a good range of toys for younger children however, these are not freely accessible for children to extend their play.

The childminder has all the documents and procedures in place to ensure children's

welfare is safe guarded and promoted. Children are sufficiently protected as the childminder has a reasonable knowledge of how to follow child protection procedure. She is able to recognise signs of abuse and knows whom to contact if she is concerned about a child.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are confident and happy in the care of their childminder. The children have good relationships with their childminder which makes them feel safe and secure in their environment. The childminder encourages children to develop positive attitudes and kindness to each other by sharing and taking turns. Practices, such as, displaying the children's creative work is helping to promote their self-esteem.

The children are learning independence skills through daily routines, such as moving from one room to another and selecting some of the toys which are available for them. Most of the toys are stored in low storage boxes with the lids on making it difficult for children to access them freely. Activities are not planned for the younger children which limits their experiences. The childminder spends some time with the baby playing with an activity centre and a shape sorter , however, the opportunities to extend stimulating learning experiences are not fully implemented.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder generally has a good understanding of children with special needs and knows the importance of working in partnership with the parents. Children are all valued and included as the childminder provides a caring and nurturing environment where each child feels a sense of belonging. Children are developing awareness of their own environment and community through regular visits to the local toddler groups and the park. There are limited resources that reflect positive images consequently this limits children's awareness about the world around us.

Young children play well together, they are learning to share and take turns with encouragement from the childminder. The childminder has a written behaviour management policy which is shared with the parents at the initial meeting, This ensures parents and children are made aware of the expectations and boundaries within the childminder's home.

Information about individual children's progress and interesting events are shared with parents on a daily basis to ensure the continuity of care and create links between both homes.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Most of the records for the smooth running of the provision are in place. The childminder has an effective system in place to maintain records for each child which are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Children's exact time of arrival and departure are not recorded which compromises their safety. She has devised a few policies and procedures which are shared with the parents at the initial meeting. Children's progress and routine are discussed with the parents on regular basis which promotes continuity, understanding and knowledge of individual child.

The children are relaxed and comfortable in the childminder's home. They benefit from the effective organisation of space and safe environment, which they confidently explore. The children have good relationship with their childminder which makes them feel safe and secure in their environment. The childminder encourages parents to settle in their children which gives her the opportunity to get to know the parents while the children get familiar with their surroundings. Overall the provision meets the needs of children who attend.

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

N/A

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

There are no complaints to report.

## **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 satisfactory. 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 children are encouraged to wash their hands before snack time and drinking water is available for children
- assess the risks to children in relation to bathroom door, gate in the front garden and baby equipment left in the room when not in use and take action to minimise these
- ensure resources are freely accessible for children and develop a suitable range of activities for younger children, for example by using the Birth to three

framework

- ensure that children have access to an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- record children's time of arrival and departure.

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)