



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	113225
Inspection date	01 February 2006
Inspector	Jacqueline Munden

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 satisfactory. 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 was registered in 1992. She lives with her three older children in Denmead, Hampshire, within walking distance to local shops schools and parks. The ground floor only of the childminder's home is used for childminding. The family have three cats.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding five children on a part time basis.

The childminder attends the local toddler group. She has a qualification in first aid

and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a suitable range of activities in a clean home, which contributes to their good health. The childminder ensures children have outdoor exercise to help them develop co-ordination and control of their bodies. For example, they go for daily walks to local woods and the seafront. These outings are increased at present to compensate for not using the garden.

Children start to understand the importance of good personal hygiene. Young children are supported in washing their hands before eating and after using the toilet or potty. However, they are at risk from cross infection as they share a towel.

Most documentation is in place ensuring children's health is suitably protected. Children's dietary requirements are known by the childminder who ensures they are met at all times. This ensures children remain healthy and that their religious and cultural needs are met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's safety is promoted in most areas of the childminder's home; they have safe and secure areas in which to play indoors. Use of the garden is restricted at the moment as it is not safe or secure. Fire safety is well promoted as the childminder conducts regular emergency evacuation procedures with the children and has smoke detectors in place. Children are well protected on outings as they wear wrist straps with the childminder's contact details on.

The childminder ensures that the play room is appealing with the use of posters and she ensures that play materials are accessible and stored in low level boxes. Children enjoy using the wide range of play equipment and books that are clean, in good condition and promote diversity.

Children are adequately protected regarding child protection due to the childminder's basic knowledge and understanding in such issues.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's home. The range and balance of activities ensures children have quiet as well as active times. They relate well to each other and to adults. They regularly socialise with other children through visits to the local toddler group and to local places of interest. Children benefit from the close

relationship they have with the childminder who is fully involved in their play. They chat together freely and as a result children have high self-esteem and are competent speakers. They benefit from the regular provision of the wide range of resources and activities that promote learning, such as puzzles and games. Children are learning to count and recognise colours. Younger children are supported appropriately in learning to walk.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children settle well, grow in confidence and develop a clear sense of self. For example, children make choices about drinks and snacks and talk about their personal experiences. Children learn about others in society through positive images seen in books and when playing with the suitable range of resources the childminder provides. The childminder has a positive approach to supporting children with special needs.

Children behave well due to the childminder's positive, consistent approach. They are generally involved in stimulating activities and are beginning to learn the boundaries of acceptable behaviour. The childminder develops relaxed relationships with parents. They share information regularly to ensure the care of children. However, the childminder does not have a written agreement to outlining her expectations and those of the parents regarding the care of children and for business arrangements.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are comfortable and at ease, as most aspects of the provision are suitably organised. This means children are confident to initiate their own play. Space and resources are used effectively. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. The childminder is suitably qualified to care for children. Most documentation is in place to promote children's safety and wellbeing. However, this is not fully ensured as the childminder does not have a sound knowledge and understanding of current guidance and regulations.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last care inspection recommendations were made to include the required information in the register and to improve security of the garden. Full details of children are now included in the record of attendance. The childminder does not allow children access to the garden at present as they will be at risk. This is due to it not being secure and the safety hazards within it.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since 1 April 2004. 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

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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):

- obtain up to date copies of the National Standards and the guidance to the National Standards, improve knowledge and understanding of the requirements set out in regulations, and set in place a procedure to notify Ofsted of relevant matters including adults living on the premises
- devise written agreements with parents which sets out the expectations of both parties as to the care of children and business arrangements
- ensure all areas of the home and garden are safe and secure.

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