



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	113006
<b>Inspection date</b>	17 November 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Lisa Jane Cupples

<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 good. 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 1991. She lives with her 2 adult children in a house in Gosport, a residential area of Hampshire. The whole house is available for childminding, although the childminder prefers to use the ground floor only. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 6 children at any one time and is currently minding 6 children under 8 years and 2 children over 8 years on a full and part-time basis. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and has completed a course in Developing Childminding Practice. She supports children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of personal hygiene and are developing good self-care skills through discussion and daily routines, for example, they are actively encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times. The childminder implements very effective hygiene procedures to help keep the children healthy and prevent the possible spread of infection.

The childminder has a very clear understanding of the procedures to deal with and record all accidents including the administration of medication. Parents are required to sign most documentation to acknowledge the entries, however they do not always sign the medication records to acknowledge when medication has been administered. The childminder holds a current first aid qualification which helps to protect the children because they will receive immediate treatment if an accident occurs.

Children are beginning to understand the importance of healthy eating through daily discussion and the provision of healthy snacks. They talk about what types of food are good for them during snack-time. The childminder discusses and records detailed information about each child on their registration forms, including information about allergies, medical, cultural needs and parental preferences to ensure she is meeting the children's individual needs at all times.

Children have ample opportunities to develop their physical skills, the childminder ensures the children go out daily to reap the benefits of plenty of fresh air. Children explain they like to scrunch the leaves on the path because they make loud noises. The children have the use of the fully enclosed garden for outside activities and enjoy many outings and visits to local facilities and parks.

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

The provision is good.

Children are very safe and secure because the childminder is vigilant, she recognises potential hazards and addresses them immediately, for example, all cleaning materials are stored safely out of the reach of children. The premises are clean and well-maintained providing a clean and safe environment for the children. Children learn about keeping themselves safe through discussion and routines, for example, they practice fire drills, so they are aware of the procedures to follow in an emergency.

The childminder provides an extensive range of equipment, toys and resources which

are clean and in good condition helping to keep the children safe. The resources are suitable for the age and stage of the children who attend. The children are able to choose freely from the broad range of resources and equipment developing their independence, as they are all stored at a low-level and are easily accessible to all the children. Children are fully protected because the childminder has a good understanding of child protection procedures and would recognise the possible signs of abuse.

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

The provision is good.

Children are confident and have good self-esteem because the childminder interacts extremely well with them and participates fully in the activities. The children under three are fully occupied and engaged throughout the day because the childminder has a good understanding of their needs, and activities are extended well to further promote their development.

Children's social skills are developing well through visiting several local parent and toddler groups, enabling the children to interact with their peers in different environments. Children are able to explore the world around them. For example, through looking at insects and talking about them to develop their understanding of their local environment. They enjoy simple activities such as listening to the noise the frosty leaves make on walks. The childminder asks open-ended questions and encourages the children to think about what they are doing or how things would work better, helping to develop their individual skills.

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit greatly from the childminder's very strong partnership with parents. Children's individual needs are fully met because the childminder takes the time to get to know each child and their families well. Children are happy, settled and feel valued because their individual needs are discussed during arrival and collection times. This helps to ensure nothing is forgotten, building good relationships and links with home, enabling parents to contribute to the children's experiences with the childminder. The childminder has experience of working with children who have special needs. She liaises closely with all the parents to ensure she can provide the best care possible for the children who attend.

Children behave extremely well because the childminder has a calm and relaxed approach towards behaviour management. She explains clearly to the children, making sure they understand that they have been treated fairly, for example, taking turns with the puzzles and cars to make sure everyone gets a turn. The children know exactly what is expected of them because the clear rules and boundaries are implemented consistently. They know they must not run inside the house, they have to sit down at the table for snacks and meals and settle quickly because of the well established routines. The childminder praises and encourages the children

throughout, recognising their efforts as well as their achievements. This helps them to develop a good sense of right and wrong and establishing a strong sense of belonging.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. The daily routines reflect the individual needs of each child. The activities are planned around the children's sleep patterns and interests and run smoothly ensuring the children are fully occupied and engaged. Children enjoy their time with the childminder because the activities are well organised and help to promote the children's development in all areas.

Children's health, safety and well-being is promoted because all of the legally required paperwork is in place, and most documents are well-maintained, up-to-date and accurate. The childminder has a clear understanding of the requirements of her registration and the inspection process, keeping children safe. The childminder continually updates her knowledge and working practice by attending training and workshops covering a variety of subjects. Children benefit greatly from her experience and professional approach to how she cares for them.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to ensure she was familiar with the National Standards. She needed to ensure all people who have regular contact with the minded children, are checked. She was also asked to obtain written permission from parents to seek emergency medical treatment.

The childminder now has a clear understanding of the National Standards. All adults in the household have been vetted, helping to ensure the children are safe and protected at all times. Parents have signed forms to give their consent for the childminder to seek emergency medical treatment. This ensures the children will receive the appropriate attention without delay in the event of an emergency.

## **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 parents sign to acknowledge the administration of medication.

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)