



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY297332
Inspection date	15 November 2005
Inspector	Hazel Stuart-Buddery

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 has been registered since 2004. She lives with her husband and two children in Addlestone. Shops and parks are in walking distance. The whole of the house is used for childminding and there is an enclosed garden for outdoor play.

The childminder may care for a maximum of two children and currently has one child on the register.

She is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children play in a clean and homely environment where they learn the importance of good personal hygiene. Effective daily routines for nappy changing and individual bedding, towels and flannels help prevent the spread of infection.

Parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. All required documentation is in place. This means children are cared for in accordance to parents wishes. The childminder holds a current first aid certificate, this ensures children receive appropriate care if there is an accident.

Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks that the childminder provides in conjunction with parents. Children benefit from continuity of care because the childminder and parents work closely together to tackle any health or diet concerns.

Children's physical development is promoted. They have daily opportunities to go on walks and get plenty of fresh air. Toddlers are encouraged to develop their newly acquired walking skills within the safety of the home.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from playing in a well-organised environment. This allows them to move around freely and safely. They have easy and safe access to a variety of age appropriate toys. The childminder has identified and minimized hazards around the home.

Children are protected well from fire. An escape plan is in place, smoke alarms and a fire blanket are fitted. The outdoor area is safe for children to enjoy fresh air and play with a range of suitable outdoor equipment that promote their physical development.

Children's welfare is safeguarded. The childminder has a good awareness of child protection issues and of the procedure to follow if she is concerned.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The toddler present is very happy in the childminder's care. He enjoys an interesting variety of toys and activities that are appropriate to his stage of development. He responds well to the childminder's direct involvement and offers lots of smiles. He spontaneously goes to her for cuddles. Good interaction from the childminder helps the toddler to explore and investigate the toys. He smiles proudly as she claps when he successfully pushes the ball into the activity centre and hears the music play.

Children enjoy the daily music sessions. They choose their own instruments and make music as the childminder sings to them. They bang the drum and play the piano with enthusiasm.

The childminder is warm and affectionate towards the toddler making him feel valued and secure. She constantly talks to him and spends her time sitting on the floor playing with him. This helps him to make good progress in his development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with respect. A range of resources and discussions with older children help them to learn about diversity. The childminder has a good awareness of equality of opportunity and encourages children to learn about differences through their daily play.

Children benefit from the childminder's clear guidelines for behaviour. They learn about taking turns and sharing because the childminder is consistent in her approach. The children benefit from lots of praise and encouragement. The childminder claps enthusiastically when they succeed and the children respond with smiles.

The toddler enjoys the company of the childminder and her family. He responds positively when she picks him up for cuddles and offers a big smile when he is spoken to. The children enjoy having stories together and pointing out the pictures of their favourite tractors.

The childminder has a professional approach with parents. She discusses children needs thoroughly to ensure individual needs are met and continuity of care is offered. Written and verbal policies and procedures are shared with parents. A daily diary is used to record the children's progress and achievements. These measures ensure that a good partnership with parents is promoted.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children make good progress in a child friendly environment. They are happy, relaxed and settled and benefit from a well-organised home. Children receive high levels of support from the childminder and good relationships are fostered.

Children benefit from resources that are appropriate to their stage of development and within easy reach for them to select. The childminder has written daily routines that include rest, quiet play and opportunities to go on walks or to the park.

All documentation is well maintained and parents receive detailed information on the services provided. However, recent changes in regulation have not been implemented. Information kept about children is relevant and helps promote their welfare. Regular informal discussions with parents ensure continuity of care for the

children. The childminder keeps parents informed of their child's progress and uses a written diary. Overall, 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

There are no complaints to report. 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 recent changes in the regulations have been implemented and shared with parents

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