



Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY303483 |
| Inspection date | 17 December 2005 |
| Inspector | Asia Islam |

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| 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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and their two children in the area of the London Borough of Hackney. The whole premises are accessible to children.

The childminder currently has one child aged under 5 years on roll. 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 very clean and warm environment. They learn about the hygiene practices within the daily routines. Explanations about the importance of hygiene are not always given. They benefit from the childminder's attentive care for their personal needs. She supervises and supports the children whilst toileting and hand washing. This does not always help to support their independence.

Children benefit from the childminder's secure understanding of the procedures to follow for any accident and medication. She has booked on training to update her first aid qualification. The first aid box is adequately stocked for any emergency. Children are provided with nutritious meals that appeal to them and are in agreement with their parents. During snack time, a banana, a biscuit and drinking water is served by the childminder.

Children play freely within the premises, which contributes towards their physical wellbeing. The childminder's plan includes taking children to the local park and other outdoor facilities to support their large physical development during good weather. Indoors, she ensures they have opportunities to dance and exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a spacious and well maintained environment, where the childminder has taken the necessary steps to reduce risks. For example, a safety gate is fitted at the kitchen entrance to prevent children gaining unsupervised access. The fire blanket and smoke detectors are in place to alert them to any fire. The childminder has some understanding of the fire evacuation procedure but has not yet practised this with the children. As a result they are not effectively supported to learn about the fire risks.

Children's resources include cars, shape sorters, alphabet teacher, musical player, sit and ride car, books, play dough, driving wheel and duplo bricks. Some role play materials, card games, books, a tea set, pretend food and a small cooking unit appropriate for the older children are available, but are stored and not within children's easy reach. However, they are of good quality and well maintained for their safe play. The available construction and small world play resources do not offer children variety.

Children's welfare is protected and safeguarded by the childminder, who has a sound understanding of the child protection issues and the correct procedures to follow in the event of any concerns. The area child protection procedures are in place.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled and content in the childminder's care. They enjoy watching children's programmes on the television and playing together. Duplo bricks, books and a steering wheel are available for them to play with, but these do not always offer them sufficient challenge and variety. The childminder gives children good eye contact and helps them to understand most situations through gestures, but she does not always help them to engage with activities. This means their learning through play is not always effective. The childminder is not using the Birth to three matters framework to plan activities for children aged under three years.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's understanding of the wider community is promoted through the childminder's planned visits to local facilities. Resources that reflect positive images of children's own religion and cultures are used by the childminder to support their understanding of themselves. Although, the resources in the childminder's home do not strongly promote diversity. She values and treats children with equal concern.

Children with special needs benefit from the childminder's commitment to work closely with their parents and professionals to support their welfare. The childminder understands the positive ways to manage and promote children's good behaviour. They respond well to her guidance and play well together most of the time. Sometimes the children clash over the same toy and this is quickly resolved. Although, children are not always involved to help them understand the consequences of their behaviour through appropriate explanations. Initially, children's care arrangements are agreed with their parents to help them settle. Thereafter, regular information about their progress is shared with parents to support children's continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a newly registered childminder, who is very committed to developing her practice through further attendance on childcare training. The home is positively organised and bright for children's comfort. The play resources are not always organised within their easy reach. She has a warm and friendly approach, which helps to make the children feel at ease.

Children's records for attendance, medication and accidents support their welfare. The written consent for seeking medical advice and treatment is not in place and does not effectively meet the emergency needs of children. The childminder meets the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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 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):

- support children's understanding of the importance of hygiene through appropriate explanations and independence
- practise the fire procedures with the children
- provide a selection of resources and activities that is of sufficient challenge, support children's learning and use the Birth to three matters framework to plan activities for children under three years
- involve children in understanding the consequences of their behaviour through appropriate explanations
- organise children's play resources to allow them easy access and ensure the written parental consent for seeking medical advice and treatment is in place

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