



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	138957
Inspection date	14 October 2005
Inspector	Keriann Belcher

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 June 1993.

She lives with her husband and two children, aged 15 and 17 years old in North Hayes in the London Borough of Ealing. The whole of the ground floor of the house and the bathroom upstairs are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 5 children at any one time and is currently minding 4 children under 5 at various times of the day and 3 children

over 5 years before and/or after school. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children.

The childminder attends local parent and toddler groups.

The family have a cat.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a range of healthy meals, and snacks which are provided to meet their individual dietary needs. For example, roast meals, fresh fruit. They sit and eat comfortably using age appropriate seating and enjoy sociable times with the childminder.

Children are protected from cross-infection as they do not attend if they have contagious illness. For example, stomach bugs. There is good procedures to promote good personal hygiene with the children. For example, regular hand washing and using disposable towels .

There is generally good policies in place for administering medication, first aid, so the children are well cared for.

Children are given daily opportunities to progress in their physical development by walking to and from school, running in the park or climbing, riding on the toys and apparatus at the toddler group.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe home, where risks are identified and reduced. This means children can move around safely, freely and independently. The childminder has devised a policy to evacuate children in the event of a fire or emergency. However, this she has not been practised this with the children, so they are not familiar with the procedure in the event of a emergency.

Children can independently select a variety of toys and equipment that is stimulating, fun and provide sufficient challenge such as different ability puzzles, musical baby toys. Young children have access to equipment to meet their individual needs to be able to eat together and sleep comfortably.

The children are satisfactorily protected by the childminder's knowledge and understanding of the child protection procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are well occupied and interested in the toys and activities available. They enjoy the challenge of different ability puzzles. Children are confident to express their needs and choose toys they wish to play with.

Children develop good vocabulary skills as the childminder asks questions and is interested in what they say and do. They have good opportunities to practise their early writing skills. For example, drawing painting and chalking. They are also encouraged to be creative and imaginative through such activities as making Halloween decorations using a variety of materials.

Children are generally encouraged to progress in all areas of their development. However, they would benefit from the childminder extending her knowledge of Birth to three matters and children's individual needs.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are beginning to learn about different lifestyles and the wider world we live in through puzzles, books and dolls. The childminder's positive attitude to equal opportunities is a good role model for the children to appreciate and value each others' similarities and differences. All children are being valued and included but their individual needs are not always met, such as identifying learning intentions for children who have special needs.

The open and honest relationship that the childminder develops with the parents enables her to meet the individual needs of the children. For example, sharing of information daily about the child's activities, health and any concerns the parent may have.

The children are well behaved as the childminder is consistent with her approach to managing unwanted behaviour which takes into account the child's level of understanding and maturity. For example, toddlers' temper tantrums are ignored and older children are given time out to reflect on the unwanted behaviour.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from the childminder's well organised routine as they develop a sense of security as to the sequencing of the day. However, children's individual needs are respected and considered when planning the day.

The childminder makes good use of the space so that children are well cared for. For example, children sleep downstairs so the childminder can closely supervise them.

The documentation kept by the childminder ensures the safe management of the provision and promotes the safe and efficient welfare of the children.

The setting is meeting the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the childminder agreed to improve the fire safety procedures by obtaining a fire blanket which conforms to BS EN standards, to be located in the kitchen. She has purchased a fire blanket that conforms to BS EN standards which is located in the kitchen, which ensures that she can take immediate fire precautions should an emergency arise.

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 the fire evacuation procedure is practised, so that children are prepared should an emergency situation were to arise.
- improve knowledge and understanding of children's individual needs ,for example, by the use of the Birth to three matters framework.

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