



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	116050
Inspection date	07 November 2005
Inspector	Daphne Prescott
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 was registered in 1993. She lives with her husband and their child aged 6 years in Chiswick in the London Borough of Hounslow. Part of the house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five all day.

The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler group.

The family has two pet cats.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health and hygiene is promoted as the childminder maintains satisfactory levels of hygiene. Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through daily routines. They are protected from unnecessary illness as they do not attend if they have an infection. The childminder has experience of administering first aid. However, she does not hold a current first aid certificate. Consequently, she could unintentionally compromise the wellbeing of the children. The childminder is aware of the details to be recorded when medication is administered to safeguard children. She records any accidents that happen to ensure the wellbeing of the children. However, not all the appropriate information has been recorded and parents have not signed the written entry.

They benefit from a healthy diet as the meals and snacks are healthy and nutritious, which helps children begin to develop an understanding of healthy eating. For example, at snack children are offered chopped apples and grapes. They can access drinking water throughout the day, as they have their own individual drinking breakers. The childminder takes account of the wishes of parents, complying with any special dietary and cultural requirements to ensure children's individual needs are met.

Children have satisfactory opportunities to enjoy physical play to keep their bodies strong and healthy as the childminder takes them to local parks and playgroups regularly. For example, they have opportunities to walk and run in the park, play on the swings and slides.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming family home, where the environment is satisfactorily maintained. The childminder has made good use of the space available, which allows children the opportunity to move around freely and with great confidence. Toys and resources are set out attractively and safely, inviting and enticing children to play. Children make themselves at home, they select toys independently and help themselves to drinks.

Children are secure in the home, where risks are identified and reduced for their safety. For example, there are appropriate fire safety measures to protect children such as smoke alarms and a fire blanket. The childminder has a devised and practised an escape plan with the children, should the need arise to ensure they are safe in an emergency. She has suitable arrangements in place to ensure children's safety by checking the toys and equipment regularly. Children are learning how to keep themselves safe because the childminder explains to them the importance of

cutting grapes in half and sitting down when eating so they do not choke. They learn how to keep safe on the road by staying close together when walking, and how to cross roads safely because the childminder teaches the children road safety.

Children's welfare is protected through the childminder's satisfactory understanding of her role and responsibility in child protection. For example, she is aware of indicators of abuse and would report any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have lots of fun and they play enthusiastically with a wide range of toys and resources, which fully promote their learning. They are curious and excited by the range of activities offered, for example, they have great fun making cages out of duplo bricks for their animals. They are able to name the different types of animals with great enthusiasm. They are beginning to make sense of the world as the childminder teaches them about the animals and where they live. Such as, whales live in the sea and worms in the ground. Children develop their vocabulary skills as the childminder asks children questions and encourages them to chat. Children have good opportunities to practise their early writing skills when drawing and painting.

Children are increasing their independence skills as they make choices about what they want to play with. For example, they confidently ask the childminder to play with the puzzles. She uses good props to encourage their learning. For example, the alphabet puzzle is used to develop children's use of making the sounds that letters make. They begin to develop their mathematical skills as they count when building with bricks. She introduces mathematical language, such as, requesting the children to collect the small and large bricks when tidying up for snack time.

Children are developing their physical skills and their imagination as they have fun in the garden riding their bikes and playing in the play house. Children's social development is encouraged by the childminder as she encourages the children to play co-operatively with each other, they are learning to take turns and share their toys. For example, children are encouraged to sit together and complete a puzzle.

Children are very happy to involve the childminder in their play and they receive lots of warm, individual attention, which enables them to successfully extend their learning and experiences. Children are making good progress in all areas of their development as the childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are very happy at the childminder's home. They are familiar with the daily routine which enables them to feel safe and secure. Children enjoy close relationships with the childminder and they learn to be respectful, caring and

considerate towards each other. As children are fully engaged in meaningful play, their behaviour is good. The childminder uses age-appropriate and positive strategies to manage any difficulties that may arise. She provides consistent boundaries and offers lots of praise and encouragement to daily activities. Children respond well to praise and smile with great delight when they have done something well. For example, helping to tidy up the toys and completing a puzzle.

A satisfactory range of resources reflecting different cultures, gender and disability enables children to gain a positive image of others and learn about the world they live in. Children have great opportunities to learn about different cultures. For example, they are learning about Diwali and Eid. The childminder arranges celebrations with festival foods, the children dress up, read stories and talk about the festival. The childminder understands the importance of helping them to develop a strong identity and feel good about themselves, their family and others. Children with special needs are welcome in the childminder's home as she has a positive attitude towards this area of childcare.

Children are happy and content because the childminder asks parents for information about their child's individual needs and interests. She shares children's daily routines and activities with the parent for children's wellbeing. There is positive written feedback from previous parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy, confident and feel at home as they receive lots of warm, individual attention to promote their emotional wellbeing. They have space to move around freely and play with the different activities provided. Children have good access to toys and resources, as they develop their independence in self-selecting their own activities. Children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder as she has a sound knowledge and understanding of caring for children and she meets their care needs effectively.

Some of the required paperwork is maintained, which helps to contribute to the welfare of children. However, children's daily attendance record is not in place, which helps to protect children's safety. Children receive continuity of care as their routines and achievements are shared between parents and the childminder. This means, the childminder does meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides for.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder agreed to install a smoke alarm and ensure the cats feeding bowls are inaccessible to children. Maintain medication, accident and incident records. Develop resources that give positive images of gender, disability and ethnicity.

The childminder has installed a smoke alarm and the cats feeding bowls are inaccessible to children for their safety. She is aware of keeping records for

medication and incidents for children's wellbeing. However, not all the appropriate information is recorded for accidents and this still needs to be addressed. Toys and resources are in place with positive images of gender, disability and ethnicity to help children gain knowledge and understanding of their local community and the wider world.

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 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):

- ensure that the accident record contains the appropriate information and parents sign each entry
- obtain an appropriate first aid qualification
- ensure that children's daily hours of attendance is recorded.

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