



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY296256
<b>Inspection date</b>	05 January 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Karen Eunice Millerchip

<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 satisfactory. 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 adult child in a house one mile from Coventry City Centre. There are shops, schools and local community resources close-by. The whole of the ground floor, upstairs bathroom and rear bedroom are used for minding. There is a fully enclosed garden suitable for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for 6 children under eight years; currently she cares for three children under five years on a full and part-time basis. She takes children to and collects from local playgroups, visits other childminders and is a

member of the National Childminding Association.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children stay healthy as the childminder takes suitable steps to prevent the spread of infection for example food preparation surfaces are cleaned before use and food is stored, prepared and served in an appropriate manner. Children are encouraged to learn about health and hygiene through regular daily routines for example hand washing prior to meals and after outdoor play and toileting. They are encouraged to be independent in their personal care for example using tissues, accessing toilet / potty training.

The children's needs with regards to accidents or illness are met appropriately and children are comforted and cared for until collected by a parent. However, although the childminder demonstrated a general understanding of First Aid, has appropriate records and procedures should a child become ill or have an accident; she does not hold a current First Aid certificate.

Children are offered a range of food in line with their dietary needs and specific likes or dislikes. A sample menu is offered to parents to ensure children have the opportunity to try a wide variety of foods and snacks. Drinks are freely available and younger children are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment where they are safe and secure. They can freely explore their surroundings and have access to a good range of toys and equipment that promotes their development and learning. Risks to children from broken or unsafe toys, furniture and equipment is minimised as the childminder carries out suitable visual checks on a daily basis. Within the home children can play safely in a well maintained environment where generally, possible hazards have been identified and addressed.

A written emergency evacuation procedure is in place and children practise the drill. However, although the childminder demonstrates sound procedures for evacuating the first floor, to safeguard children this process needs to be included and practised in line with current procedures.

Children are kept safe when out and about as they are appropriately restrained when travelling in the car, directly supervised at all times and the childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of how to address possible risks at the park or when using local community resources.

Children's welfare is suitably promoted through the childminders general

understanding and knowledge of child protection issues. Parents are verbally informed of mutual roles and responsibilities that help to keep children safe.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in a friendly environment where they can experience a suitable range of age appropriate play opportunities for example crayoning, home corner, books, shape sorters and outdoor play. Children play happily on their own and alongside other children and are able to self select toys from low level boxes and shelves.

All children are supported by the childminder during their play and toys are changed during the day to keep children interested and occupied. Children go out to local shops where they are involved with choosing fruit and vegetables; they also visit other childminders which gives them opportunities to socialise in a secure environment.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's individual needs are met as they follow their normal daily routine as discussed with parents. They respond well to each other and when interacting with the childminder. The children are comfortable and secure in their surroundings and are developing confidence and independence for example they are encouraged to help when out shopping, able to access own drinks, encouraged to develop self-help skills.

Children access suitable toys and resources that develops their understanding of the wider community. They are beginning to learn about each others differences and similarities through play and day to day conversation.

Children behave well and are learning to share and take turns. They enjoy a suitable variety of play opportunities and this helps limit unacceptable behaviour. Methods of behaviour management are discussed with parents and methods used are in line with the individual child's level of understanding and maturity. Praise is used to promote good behaviour and to support children's learning.

Children are supported in getting to know the childminder, her family and the environment through a gradual introduction. Parents are encouraged to share information on their child's individual needs to ensure the childminder can provide care in accordance with their wishes. Daily information sharing takes place about children's progress and daily activities to ensure their changing needs are met.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children follow a flexible daily routine that includes time to play, rest and go out and about. On arrival they are able to choose from well presented toys and resources that they are keen to play with. They make good use of the space and toys both indoors and outdoors.

Children's well-being is suitably promoted as the childminder shares procedures and daily routines with parents to ensure they work towards a common aim. Children's and parent's details are well maintained and kept securely to maintain confidentiality. Overall, the provision meets the needs of all children that attend.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the following actions were raised and have been suitably addressed:

Ensure that written parental permission to seek emergency medical treatment or advice is in place for all children. Each child now has written parental permission to seek emergency medical treatment or advice and it is placed in the children's details and kept in an address book for easy access.

Maintain a daily record of the names of all children looked after on the premises and their times of arrival and departure. A daily register is now maintained accurately and gives a clear indication of the number of children cared for at any one time.

Ensure adult:child ratios in line with conditions of registration are maintained at all times. The childminder now cares for children in accordance with her conditions of registration at all times.

Ensure that written parental permission to transport children in a vehicle is in place. Each child now has written parental permission to travel in a vehicle and it is kept within the children's details.

### **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):

- improve children's well-being by attending a first aid course specific to babies and young children
- improve children's safety by ensuring the process for evacuating the first floor is included in the current emergency evacuation procedures.

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)