



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	112823
Inspection date	10 May 2005
Inspector	Diane Ryan
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?

This childminder has been registered since 1990. She lives with her husband and two children, of senior and junior school age. They live in a bungalow in the rural village of Denmead, north of Portsmouth. The whole of the childminder's bungalow is used for childminding and there is a safe fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for six children at any one time and is currently minding five children, all of whom attend on a part time basis and before and after school. The childminder walks to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. The childminder takes children to the local toddler group, childminding

support group and to the local park. The family have a guinea pig and fish.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA)

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are encouraged to maintain good standards of hygiene through washing their hands before meals, after using the toilet or playing with the guinea pig, helping children develop their understanding of health and hygiene. The childminder ensures parents keep their children at home with any infectious diseases, preventing the spread of infection. Records are kept of all accidents, incidents and medication given, ensuring the children are kept safe. The childminder plans activities for physical and outdoor play promoting a healthy lifestyle.

Parents provide packed lunches for their own children. The childminder stores food safely and reheats meals correctly ensuring the children's health and well-being. She obtains information about any dietary needs and ensures she offers younger children drinks throughout the day. Older children can access their own drinks at any time developing independence and self confidence.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder provides a clean, warm, welcoming and well- maintained provision for children making the premises and garden safe for all children to play in. Toys are stored safely at child height enabling them to access them safely encouraging independence and self- esteem. The childminder completes regular risk assessments and supervises children at all times ensuring children are kept safe and secure. The childminder has a good understanding of her role in child protection. She has a child protection policy which she shares with parents and she records any injuries a child arrives with ensuring children's safety.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Childminder builds positive relationships with the children in her care. She is warm and affectionate. and knows the children well. She encourages independence by allowing the children to self select toys and resources, making decisions about what they want to do. The children are confident and relaxed and are able to approach the childminder for support. For example on arrival at the childminder's home a minded child ran happily into the playroom to get the toys out, clearly feeling welcome, safe and secure. The childminder gives praise and encouragement helping children feel good about themselves. She discussed how well children settle in, they are able to

participate fully within her home and while attending various groups develop social skills and self confidence. Children enjoy playing with a train set, talking about colours, counting, discussing large and small houses and building towers. The childminder spends her time playing with the children, supporting them when needed, to helping them develop through the activities she offers. She has a sound knowledge of the children's development and effectively supports them. The wide range of toys and resources cater for all children's abilities and preference, encouraging imagination and social skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The childminder has a positive attitude towards diversity and has selected resources reflecting equal opportunities which children benefit from. She encourages children to acknowledge and recognise differences and similarities in other people developing self-esteem and respect for others. Activities are adapted to meet the abilities of all children, ensuring they have access to appropriate toys and helping them feel good about themselves. The childminder manages children's behaviour appropriately, explaining clearly, according to the children's age and level of understanding. She uses praise and encouragement helping the children to feel good about themselves and through discussion helps them understand the effect their behaviour has on others. The consistency of care of children is ensured by good relationships with parents with information being shared, before a child starts, about their needs, likes and interests.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children feel at home and are fully occupied with a wide range of play activities and resources at the childminder's home. Good use of space and resources allow children to become involved in and enjoy active play. They also have opportunities for socialising when attending various children's groups. All required documentation is accurately recorded and shared with parents ensuring their needs are met. The childminder has a sound knowledge of first aid enabling her to protect children although she has not kept her certificate up to date, which could have an adverse effect on the children. The childminder has a clear understanding of the requirements of her registration, keeping children safe.

Overall the needs of the range of children minded are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Complaints since the last inspection

Not applicable

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):

- Complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children

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