



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY303331
Inspection date	08 December 2005
Inspector	Hazel Stuart-Buddery

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 2005. She lives with her husband and two young children in Staines. Minded children have access to the ground floor, with sleeping facilities upstairs. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play. The local shops, parks and schools are all in walking distance.

The childminder may care for a maximum of three children and currently has two on the register.

The family have one cat.

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.

Children play in a clean and well maintained environment where they begin to learn the importance of healthy lifestyles and good hygiene procedures. Effective daily routines for nappy changing help prevent spread of infection.

Parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. All documentation is accurately maintained. This means children are cared for in accordance with parents wishes. The childminder holds a current first aid certificate, this ensures children receive appropriate care if there is an accident.

Children benefit from nutritious and healthy meals and snacks with all dietary needs taken in to account. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure that specific dietary needs are met and children receive appropriate meals according to their stage of development.

Toddlers learn to control their own body gaining physical skills appropriate to their stage of development. They benefit from daily walks and get plenty of fresh air.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in a spacious well-organised environment. This allows them to move around and play safely. They have easy and safe access to a good range of age appropriate toys and resources that are rotated regularly to keep children's interests. The baby masters the art of crawling quickly and safely around the home and negotiates the space well.

Children are protected from fire. The childminder talks to older children about escaping quickly and safely if there is a fire. Smoke alarms and a fire blanket are also in place. The childminder has identified and minimized most risks. However, the glass patio doors that are easily accessible to the children are not sufficiently protected.

The outdoor area is safe for children to enjoy the fresh air and play with a range of age appropriate toys. Effective child protection procedures promote and safeguard children welfare whilst they are in the childminder's care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled and very happy in the childminder's care. They enjoy a good range of activities and toys that are appropriate to their stage of development. The childminder provides lots of support to young children, who spontaneously come to her for kisses and cuddles. She responds quickly to children's interests and helps them to explore and investigate the toys.

The babies smile proudly when lots of enthusiastic praise is given to them as they successfully push, turn or pull the correct button. The babies enjoy sitting with the childminder and looking at animal books. They are encouraged to touch and feel the different textures in the book. The childminder promotes language skills as she explains what the animals are and what noises they make.

The childminder is warm and affectionate towards the children making them feel valued, safe and secure. She knows the children well and responds to their individual needs effectively, recognising signs of tiredness. She constantly talks to them and spends time on the floor playing with them, this helps children make good progress in their development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with respect and make independent choices with what to play with. This means children gain confidence and develop a sense of self-worth. The childminder has a good attitude and understanding towards equality of opportunity and encourages the children to learn about and respect all differences.

Children enjoy the company of the childminder. They play well alongside each other and are happy and content. The babies bang shapes together excitedly when they are offered praise for pushing the right shape into the sorter. The childminder has a clear behaviour policy in place that is shared verbally with parents. Children begin to learn about sharing and taking turns positively and respond well to praise and encouragement.

The childminder has a friendly but professional approach with the parents. She discusses the children's need thoroughly to ensure individual needs are met and continuity of care is offered. All policies are verbal and shared with parents at the initial interview. Children's progress and achievements are shared on a daily basis. These measures ensure that a good partnership with parents is promoted.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are relaxed and settled in the childminder's care. They benefit from well-organised play space and resources that are all easily accessible to allow children to select independently. Children receive appropriate levels of support from the childminder and she fosters good relationships.

The childminder maintains most required documentation well. All policies and

procedures are shared verbally with parents. She has not fully implemented the recent changes to the regulations.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

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 low level glass is safe or inaccessible to children
- develop knowledge and understanding of the recent changes to the regulations

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