



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY303154
Inspection date	30 November 2005
Inspector	Ann Taylor

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2005.

She lives with her husband, adult daughter and children aged 11 and 14 years in the area to the north of Oxford city. The whole of the ground floor, plus the upstairs bathroom, is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under 8 years old. At present there are two children on her register. The childminder walks or drives to local schools to take and collect children. She takes children to the local library and to

the local park.

There are no pets in the family.

She is a member of the NCMA (National Childminding Association).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an environment that is warm and clean. Through effective daily routines and appropriate support the childminder is establishing clear and regular hygiene habits. For example, personal bibs at mealtimes and individual towels and face cloths for each minded child.

Children's dietary needs are met as the childminder works with parents to ensure their preferences are followed. For example, the children drink cooled boiled water and the childminder prepares suitable food options for breakfast and lunch as agreed with the parents.

Children are protected from illness as the childminder has a good understanding of infectious diseases. Most of the documents for accident and medication are in place. However, the childminder must ensure that parents correctly complete all records and that she has parental permission for emergency medical care. A fully stocked first aid box is easily accessible to adults.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a home where risks are minimised. The premises are kept secure and the minded children are able to move around the home freely. Close surveillance keeps children safe in the front room, where the empty grate is not guarded, and in the garden as there are berry-bearing trees.

Children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted as the childminder holds a current first aid qualification. She has a secure understanding of Child Protection procedures in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

Children develop independence as they are able to choose from a selection of safe, clean and colourful toys. The childminder carefully monitors these to ensure they are appropriate for the children's age and stage of development.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are at ease with the childminder. They are well settled and confident within

her home. She interacts well with the children, responding to their interests as they choose toys. Children build a strong bond with the childminder as they share hugs and cuddles with her appropriately.

The childminder extends her resources with books from the local library and children are able to self-select from a reasonable range of toys. These are stored at low level to assist their free access. This encourages children's independence and supports their self-esteem.

The childminder is aware of the children's individual needs and follows daily routines. Children's early communication skills are well supported through high quality adult-child interactions.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children settle well and play happily together. The childminder encourages the children to share toys and resources, talking gently to them about taking turns. This positive approach fosters children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development.

Children learn to understand right from wrong as the childminder uses appropriate strategies for managing behaviour. Behaviour management strategies are discussed with the parents at settling in.

Children's individual needs are met as the childminder works closely with parents, respecting their wishes concerning the care of the children. Information is exchanged on a daily basis with parents to ensure continuity of care.

Although no children with special needs currently attend this setting, the childminder demonstrates a sound awareness of equal opportunities and special needs. However she needs to extend her range of toys and resources which demonstrate diversity.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has completed the Introduction to Childminding course. She has a good understanding of first aid procedures and holds a valid first aid certificate.

Nearly all the required documentation which contributes to health, safety and well-being is in place. However some details have not been entered by the parents and not all parental permissions are in place. The childminder needs to ensure that all documentation is complete, current, and accurate. The childminder also needs to provide a complaints file as required by Ofsted.

A daily register showing children's time of arrival and departure is maintained but the childminder needs to ensure that it is always kept up to date. Documents are stored confidentially and are available for inspection by Ofsted.

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.

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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):

- extend toys and resources to show diversity, and role models of disability.
- ensure all necessary documents, including details of each child's GP; and parental permissions, including permission for outings, and permission for emergency medical treatment, are in place, up to date, and accurate.
- ensure the daily register is kept up to date and accurate at all times.

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