



## Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	122952
<b>Inspection date</b>	15 December 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Janet Sharon Williams

<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 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 1994. She lives with her husband and two sons aged 8 and 13 years. They live in Balham in the London Borough of Wandsworth. There are local shops, a park, a library, schools and transport links within walking distance. All areas of the property are used for childminding apart from the main bedroom. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children any one time and is currently minding two children under 5.

The childminder regularly attends many of the local children's groups and childminders' drop-in centres.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children understand and learn good health and hygiene practices because the childminder washes their hands before meals. Children are well nourished through the childminder providing well balanced nutritious meals. For example, for breakfast they are served with a wheat cereal and for lunch, meat and fresh vegetables. Children's special dietary requirements and allergies are discussed with parents prior to placement and the childminder ensures that these are adhered to. Drinks are offered at regular intervals, especially if a child is unable to ask for one.

Children are cared for in a clean and well maintained home. Children stay healthy because the childminder follows good and appropriate health guidelines to protect children's well being. The childminder has an effective system in place to record accidents and medication. The childminder's first aid certificate has expired, although this does not affect her ability to carry out appropriate first aid or emergency treatment.

Children's physical development is promoted through the childminder frequently taking the children out to children's groups and parks, and they also make very good use of the garden, where they enjoy kicking footballs and manoeuvring bicycles and tricycles, to keep them well motivated and active.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, secure and safe indoor and outdoor environment. Most of the appropriate steps have been taken to ensure children are kept safe. For example, children are supervised at all times and gates are kept permanently in place at the bottom and top of the stairs on each level. However, the area in which the children sleep is not safe.

Children access and use suitable toys and resources, which are stored at low level to enable them to make their own choices. Activities are provided that stimulate children's interest and promote their development. Books, games, physical play, creative and imaginative activities are available within the home and garden. Space is used appropriately to enable older children to move around freely and comfortably and younger children to crawl and pull themselves up.

Children's wellbeing is protected due to the childminder's sound understanding of child protection. She is aware of the signs and symptoms and knows what procedures to follow where she identifies any concerns relating to child abuse.

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

The provision is good.

Children have their individual needs met and their welfare promoted through the childminder providing a very good range of toys and activities indoors and out, such as activity centres, cars, books, trains and puzzles. She visits toddler groups, parks and other local places of interest. Children have an excellent relationship with the childminder because she gives them quality time, talks and listens to the children, sings songs, meets their needs and responds to their interest.

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They independently make their own decisions about their play and activities. Children are very happy and settled within the environment. They get on well with their peers and respond well to adults.

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

The provision is good.

Children become aware of the wider society through the childminder providing toys and equipment that promotes equality of opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice. They learn about the world around them through resources, such as books, and the childminder taking time to explain to the children about people of different races and cultures.

Children are treated with equal concern according to their individual needs. The childminder has a positive attitude towards caring for children with special needs and is able to effectively recognise a child presenting special needs and share with parents in a sensitive manner to address identified needs, for example, offer additional support or provide the necessary resources and equipment.

Children are well behaved. Good behaviour is regularly praised and encouraged with frequent positive verbal comments. The childminder has a behaviour management policy in place, which is shared with parents prior to placement.

Children's needs are appropriately met through the childminder's positive and friendly relationship with parents. She talks to parents on a daily basis and provides them with up to date information about their children's progress.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are well cared for in a caring and stimulating environment. The daily routine is well organised for physical and creative play and children use space effectively both indoors and out. The childminder's adult:child ratio is well maintained to positively support children's care, learning and play.

All relevant documentation is in place, which includes comprehensive written policies

for uncollected children, lost children, equal opportunities and behaviour management that are fully implemented and practised. The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of children's development and their needs are met effectively.

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

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

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to obtain written permission from parents to administer medication and emergency medical treatment. This has been addressed for the safety and well-being of the children.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints reported 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 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):

- update first aid certificate
- make bunk bed ladder inaccessible to the 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)