



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY294185
Inspection date	20 February 2006
Inspector	Diane Henry

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 was registered in 2004 she lives with her husband and 2 sons aged 11 and 7 years. They live in the county of Surrey. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and the bathroom is located on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden and a park within close walking distance for the children to use for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 5 children under 5 of whom 2 may be under 5 and 1e may be under one. She is currently minding 2 children under 8 years, of whom 1e is under 5 on a part time basis.

The childminder walks to a local school to take and collect children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm clean environment. Good hygiene practices are promoted and children are learning to be independent when washing their hands with suitable hand washing facilities provided by the childminder. Children are protected from the spread of infection by the effective use of a written sick child policy. This includes the exclusion of children when they are unwell and is shared with parents.

Children benefit from suitable amounts of fresh air and exercise, which promotes their good health and encourages a healthy lifestyle. The childminder regularly takes children for walks and they enjoy a variety of activities in the childminder's garden.

Parents provide lunch for their children which is supplemented with regular drinks and healthy snacks provided by the childminder. She also provides a evening meal for children who attend after school. A varied and balanced menu ensures children's nutritional needs are met.

Children's wellbeing is safeguarded by the effective use of record keeping systems relating to health issues. For example, the recording of accidents and medication given to children.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a home which is warm, clean and free from hazards. They are able to move around independently and choose from a wide range of toys and equipment.

There is a large range of toys and equipment which is age appropriate and meets the needs of all the children attending. For example, puzzles and toys for imaginative play and materials for drawing.

Children's wellbeing is safeguarded by the effective use of safety equipment inside the home and garden, such as safety gates and cupboard locks. Children are learning to keep themselves safe with positive encouragement from the childminder who, for example practises the fire evacuation plan with them.

Children's wellbeing is safeguarded by a childminder who has a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. She has completed relevant training and has all relevant written guidelines.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from positive relationships with a childminder who knows them well. She provides them with a wide range of age appropriate activities which meets their individual needs and enhances their all round development.

The children respond well to warm interacting with the childminder, for example when sharing books and stories. The childminder encourages the children's learning by asking relevant questions and talking to them about the world around them when playing with puzzles or talking about the weather.

Children have the opportunity to play with other children and learn about the world around them through well organised trips and outings. For example, local toddler groups and the local library.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities when playing in the childminders garden, including sand play, water play and ride on toys.

The childminder is familiar with the Birth to three matters framework. However, she has not fully implemented this into her daily routine.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel secure as they are cared for by a childminder who knows them well and respects the wishes of their parents. Children are learning about their own and other communities through a wide range of books and toys which positively reflect people from many different cultures and backgrounds.

Children with special needs would be welcomed into the setting by the childminder who has a positive approach to caring for a child with special needs. In addition, she would seek advice from their parents to ensure their needs were met.

Children are learning to behave in an acceptable way with positive encouragement from the childminder. Children are provided with clear boundaries and parents are kept well informed.

Children benefit from good relationships between their parents and the childminder. Parents are kept well informed about the service provided and their child's progress through verbal feedback and the effective use of comprehensive written policies and procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised environment, where they feel secure and their individual needs are met. There is a well organised daily routine which ensures children have access to a varied environment.

Children benefit from a childminder who has a sound knowledge and understanding of child care and has attended relevant training.

There are good record keeping systems in place which meet regulatory requirements. These are used effectively by the childminder to ensure children's well being is protected and parents are kept well informed of the service provided and their child's progress.

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 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 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):

- implement the Birth to three matters framework to develop the provision for children under three.

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