



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	112503
Inspection date	20 June 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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1990. She lives with her husband and two children of senior school age in the village of Purbrook north of Portsmouth, Hampshire. The lounge and dining room areas of the childminder's house are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden 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 or before and after school. The childminder takes and collects children from local schools and playgroups. She takes children to the local parent and toddler groups, a childminding support group, the local library and to the local park.

The childminder has dog, cat, a bearded dragon, a corn snake and guinea pigs.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The childminder's home is clean and tidy and children learn and understand the importance of good hygiene and keeping themselves healthy. They are encouraged to follow good hygiene procedures, such as washing hands after toileting. The childminder has a policy not to accept children when ill, helping to prevent the spread of infection.

She agrees arrangements for providing food and drinks with parents. Meals are stored appropriately and reheated correctly ensuring the children's continuing good health and children have access to drinks at all times and independence is encouraged.

Children have the opportunity to play on large equipment developing gross motor skills. They have a range of physical activities offered encouraging them to contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder offers a friendly and welcoming environment for children, with appropriate space provided to enjoy a range of activities in safety. Children can self select resources and initiate their own play, developing their confidence and independence. The childminder checks toys and resources regularly, keeping children safe, however there is a broken window in the garden shed .

The childminder stays with the children at all times and ensures children benefit from the good range of safety measures within the house. Children develop a good understanding of safety while on outings through discussing road safety rules, helping them to keep themselves safe.

Children's welfare is promoted by the childminder's knowledge and understanding of child protections issues and procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The childminder has a good understanding of the individual needs of the children in her care and she develops sound relationships with them making them feel safe and secure. She communicates well with the children, offering support and guidance as and when required, building the children's confidence. Children receive praise and encouragement through out the day increasing their self-esteem and making them feel good about themselves. Children make their own choices about their play from the wide range of toys and resources available, encouraging their imagination and independence. Children have regular outings to different groups giving them opportunities for socialising with their peers.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The childminder demonstrates a knowledgeable understanding of equal opportunities and she treats all children as individuals. She values them, helping them to feel good about themselves and enabling them to reach their full potential. Children gain a good understanding of the wider world and community through the childminders range of toys and resources.

The childminder has experience of caring for children with special needs and she would ensure activities are adapted to meet the abilities of the children enabling them all to join in.

The childminder explains her behaviour management strategies clearly to the children, taking into account their age and level of understanding, ensuring the children's well being. Children begin to learn right from wrong through consistent boundaries. A good relationship between the childminder and parents benefits the children by sharing information about the children's needs, likes and interests, ensuring consistency of care.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

The childminder updates her knowledge of childcare through regularly attending workshops, ensuring she provides good quality care for the children. Children's days are organised to give them opportunities to choose from a variety of different toys and activities both inside and outside ensuring they are enjoying their play. All required documentation is comprehensive, up to date and shared with parents, promoting effectively the health, safety and well-being of the children. The childminder has a clear understanding of the requirements of her registration and the inspection process, keeping children safe. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the childminder agreed to ensure a separate record of accidents and existing injuries are kept including children's surnames.

Ensure the surnames of children are recorded in the attendance register.

Keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children.

To ensure children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote anti-discriminatory practice.

The childminder has put all the recommendations in place as asked. All records include the full names of children and parents write and sign a letter re medication ensuring the children's safety. The childminder has obtained more toys that promote anti-discriminatory practice including dolls, play food, puzzles, Lego and books giving them a wider understanding about the world around us.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

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 garden is kept safe for 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