



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	111936
Inspection date	02 June 2005
Inspector	Judith Margaret Reed

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 1991. She lives with her partner and three children.

They live in a house in the Hedge End area of Eastleigh, Hampshire. All areas of the property are registered for childminding, although the bedrooms are used mainly for sleeping. Children have access to a playroom on the ground floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any time and is

currently minding a number of children at various times. The childminder takes children out to local parks regularly and goes swimming weekly. The family has two pet rabbits and a cat at the time of the inspection.

The childminder is a member of the Southampton Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. They have a good understanding of healthy eating because the childminder provides a wide selection of nutritious meals and snacks of fruit and vegetables. Children develop an understanding of a healthy lifestyle and the benefits of physical play as they go outside in the garden daily, as well as visits to parks, beach and go swimming weekly.

Children are safe and parents kept informed through good recording procedures of accidents, however medication records lack detail.

Children learn the importance of personal hygiene. They are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times developing their self care skills. Most hygiene practices are in place, however the childminder does not use disposable gloves, or regular cleaning routines, to protect the children from infection when changing nappies.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a home where risks are identified and minimised. This enables children to move around safely, freely and independently. The careful organisation of equipment and resources helps children to access them easily and safely. The childminder gives high priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe at all times both inside and outside the home.

Children independently select activities from a range of good quality toys and equipment. The childminder carefully monitors toys and equipment to ensure children's safety. The childminder holds a current first aid certificate and has a secure understanding of child protection procedures. This ensures that children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The childminder interacts well with the children and joins in with their play activities encouraging their social skills and language development. She knows the minded children well and makes provision for their needs on arrival. Children settle well at the

childminder's house. Children are interested in a developmentally appropriate range of indoor and outdoor activities enjoying in particular collage and gluing. They enjoy their play and are able to initiate and lead their own activities. All age groups play well together and enjoy various outings as a group.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have a good relationship with the childminder as she takes time to listen to them and is interested in what they say and do. Children are valued and respected as individuals. Children are beginning to learn about the world around the because of the childminder's provision of resources

reflecting diversity.

The childminder uses plenty of praise and encouragement, celebrating children's achievements and developing their confidence. The children gain an understanding of appropriate behaviour through the boundaries and expectations set by the childminder.

The childminder builds good relationships with parents ensuring all the children's individual needs are met. The useful information shared in the home diary books, used for younger children, is well used and enables parents to be part of the children's experiences with the childminder.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are at ease and are able to move around freely in the well organised, safe environment. The childminder plans regular outings for children to help them develop and enjoy more physical activities.

Policies and procedures are shared with parents and are used effectively to promote the well being of the children. Documentation is kept up to date and accurate at all times to ensure children are safeguarded. The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of registration and the inspection process, keeping children safe. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

The childminder was asked to develop and improve her range of toys and books which reflect diversity as well as ensuring her register showed times of arrival and departure. The childminder has changed her register format and clearly notes times of children's arrival and departure. Childminder is able to see at a glance who is present and all children are safe in her care. She has increased the amount of toys and books which reflect diversity and has obtained a number of figures which show equal opportunities. The range of books has increased and there are stories from

around the world as well as books including people from other cultures. The childminder continues to build on her range of toys which reflect diversity and children benefit from the choice of toys and books available.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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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):

- ensure parents sign permission for medication to be administered, and again following administration
- follow good hygiene procedures when changing nappies including wearing disposable gloves and cleaning the changing mat thoroughly after each use

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