



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY227160
Inspection date	24 May 2006
Inspector	Rufia Uddin
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 2003. She lives with her husband and four children aged 12, 13, 16 and 18. They live in a house in a quiet residential area close to the local schools and within walking distance of the local shops, schools and park in the London borough of Newham. The whole of the ground floor apart from the front room is used for childminding. There is an enclosed garden suitable for outdoor play. The family do not have any pets.

The childminder is registered to provide care for five children from five years to under eight years.

There are currently two children on roll.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in a warm and clean environment where they learn the importance of hygiene and personal care. An established routine and regular discussions enable children to learn about the positive impact on their health as they practise good personal hygiene. Children learn the importance of washing hands before eating and after using the bathroom. The childminder is first aid trained and she is aware of procedures to follow should a child become ill in her care. Systems are in place for the recording of accidents and these are shared with parents. Children's health is assured in an emergency situation because written consent has been obtained from parents to seek emergency medical treatment.

Children enjoy and are well nourished by the healthy and nutritious snacks the childminder provides, meeting their individual requirements. Healthy snacks and regular drinks are provided. Children have daily opportunities to be active and benefit from regular exercise. They learn the importance of washing hands before eating and after going to the toilet. Children begin to understand the benefits of a healthy diet.

Children are at times engaged in activities which contribute to their health such as playing outside in the garden. They enjoy the physical activities and develop control of their bodies through playing on equipment such as the seesaw and slide and using smaller equipment such as bats and balls. They confidently handle a range of tools and materials such as glue, scissors and writing materials.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are at ease in warm and welcoming surroundings. The childminder has taken positive steps to identify risks and remove potential hazards, which ensures children can play in a safe and secure environment. Children are also kept safe when out on visits, they learn about keeping themselves safe as they discuss and practise good road safety. The childminder has given thought to fire safety and protecting children, she has smoke detection and fire fighting equipment available and is aware of safe practice and exits from the home. Children's welfare and wellbeing are safeguarded as the childminder has a sound understanding of child protection recording and reporting procedures.

Children are well protected and safeguarded from harm because the childminder has a good understanding of her role with regards to child protection issues. She has completed training in this area and is aware of the different types of abuse, recognising possible signs and symptoms that may cause concern. The childminder has a sound understanding of the records required to be kept and knows the procedures to follow should she be concerned about a child in her care ensuring their wellbeing is promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to make choices from a wide range of resources which interest them. Children enjoy their time when they return from school as the childminder is sensitive to balancing the school day with relaxation and interesting activities. A varied range of resources are organised so that children are able to access them independently. The children have a sense of belonging and interact freely with the childminder's own children. They make choices about their care and activities, and know and comply with safety and health routines. They are confident as they talk about the school and home. Children are involved in developmentally appropriate activities. Children play with familiar activities and the childminder offers opportunities for them to acquire skills and knowledge. The children play harmoniously, sharing creative ideas and talking happily.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children feel secure and confident. They are valued and respected as individuals as their individual needs are met in consultation with parents. The childminder encourages the children to value everyone's individuality and diversity. The childminder provides a limited range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of others.

The childminder has no experience of caring for child with special educational needs. She demonstrates a positive attitude towards caring for children with special educational needs. She is aware of the importance of working closely with parents, and would ask parents for a routine of care and discuss issues with professionals involved in the child's care.

The children show care and concern for each other, and play together harmoniously. They behave well. Children make themselves at home, confidently deciding what to do, and independently visit the bathroom. They have time to relax as well as be active. Positive behaviour is encouraged and praised by the childminder, which encourages children to learn about right and wrong. Children are pleased when they receive praise from the childminder. Their daily routines are followed as discussed with their parents.

Partnership with parents is good. Initial meetings with parents are in place to ensure there is a time to clarify expectations and ensure that a partnership can be established that will benefit and promote the welfare of the children. The childminder verbally shares information with parents to keep them informed about the service and their child's activities. This contributes to continuity in the children's care. The childminder uses a range of written records which are organised and generally effective in supporting the childminding business but one aspect has been overlooked as there is no system to record complaints.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The children feel at home and at ease with the environment. The childminder has created a child-centred environment in which she offers ample support to the children to support their learning and play. The children can choose to play independently with the easily accessible play and learning resources. This means they are confident in their own play and learning.

The children are protected because procedures are in place to ensure children are not left alone with anyone who has not been vetted. The childminder has obtained the relevant disclosure application form for her daughter and has completed it and posted it to Ofsted. There was no evidence available that the criminal records checks for her daughter were suitable. The check is necessary because the childminder's daughter is now 16 years old.

The childminder has not developed written policies and procedures to promote the welfare, care and learning of children but has some knowledge of the relevant issues. The childminder uses a range of written records which are generally effective in supporting the childminding business. She verbally shares information with parents to keep them informed about the service and their child's activities. This contributes to continuity in the children's care.

The childminder is developing her knowledge and understanding of good childcare practice by attending relevant training courses.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

In the last childcare inspection the childminder was asked to:

Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, obtain a copy of the London child protection procedures, obtain written parental consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment and provide a suitable range of toy's and resources in order to meet the developmental needs of children from five to eight years.

The childminder has obtained some play resources that reflect positive images of different groups in society that help meet the developmental needs of young children. The childminder has also obtained written parental consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment, has obtained the necessary child protection procedures, and has attended a training course on child protection. This will help to promote children's safety and welfare.

In the last childcare inspection the childminder was also asked to develop knowledge and understanding of appropriate behaviour management strategies. The childminder has not attended a training course on behaviour management, but has read some literature on the subject. This helps to promote children's safety, welfare and development.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The childminder 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):

- make sure that persons over the age of 16 years living in the household undergo criminal records checks
- ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice and devise a system to record complaints

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk