



## Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | EY312999         |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 13 February 2006 |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Keriann Belcher  |

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <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 registered in 2005, she lives with her husband and three children aged 15 months, 5 and 10 years old in Slough in the County of Berkshire. The whole of the ground and first floor is used for childminding and there is restricted use of the second floor. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at anyone time and is currently minding two children under five all day. The childminder walks and drives to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler groups and is a member of a local childminder support group.

The family have no pets, the childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children are protected from cross infection as the childminder has a policy not to care for sick children. They are beginning to learn good hygiene practises. For example, they clean their hands before eating and after using the toilet.

Children's individual dietary needs are respected without them feeling excluded. For example, a vegetarian sausage option is given when the other children are having meat. They are beginning to have the opportunity to make healthy choices as fruit or vegetables are offered at each meal time.

Children have good opportunities to run, climb and enjoy the fresh air as the childminder plans the week to include a variety of activities. For example, walking to feed the ducks, go to the local play activity zone or participate in the parent and toddler group where there is equipment to climb or run freely.

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a welcoming environment where they can move around freely and safely. They are encouraged to be independent and are able to help themselves to toys and books as resources are stored at a low level. Children have access to a range of equipment to meet their individual needs and care. For example, highchairs, travel cot, buggies and nappy changing facilities.

Children's safety is promoted well by the childminders very good understanding of first aid. For example, she gives the parents guidance to observe any effects of concussion if the child has had a head injury. The risk of accidents is reduced to children as the childminder takes steps to reduce hazards as all the required safety equipment is in place. For example, the stair gates and a fire blanket. However, an escape plan has been devised but not practised with children to ensure that they can be evacuated from the premises in an emergency.

The children's welfare is safeguarded, as the childminder has knowledge of the correct procedure to follow if she has concerns about a child's health and welfare; a copy of the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures is easily accessible.

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

The provision is good.

Children have lots of fun and they play enthusiastically with a good range of toys and

resources which fully promote their learning. Children develop their vocabulary skills as the childminder asks children questions and encourages them to chat. This also helps them to make sense of the world. Children are developing good hand eye co-ordination as they use glue and different materials to make valentines cards They are using their imagination as they dress up as Spiderman and play in the tent pretending to make tea.

Children involve the childminder in their play and they receive lots of warm, individual attention, which enables them to successfully extend their learning and experiences. For example, a child snuggled onto her lap when tired. Children are making good progress in all areas of their development as the childminder has a very good understanding of how children learn and develop in a supportive stimulating environment.

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

The provision is good.

Children are settled and confident because the childminder values and respects their individuality. Children are learning to take turns and share. For example, wearing the Spiderman outfit. They are well behaved as the childminder provides consistent boundaries and gives explanations as to why the behaviour is unacceptable.

Children are able to feel good about themselves and develop their self-image as the childminder has a positive attitude towards inclusion. They participate in a variety of festivals and celebrations .For example, making cards for Diwali.

Children are happy and content because the childminder has a very good relationship with the parents. They work together to meet the child's individual care and developmental needs. Children's routines and activities are shared with parents daily.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children feel comfortable within the childminder's home environment. She organises the day to include a good variety of play activities. This helps to ensure the progress of children's individual development and learning. They receive lots of warm, individual attention to promote their emotional wellbeing.

The childminder has in place well organised documentation, which includes policies and procedures which are used effectively and help to contribute to the safety and welfare of the children. These are stored securely and made available for inspection.

Children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder as she has a sound knowledge and understanding of caring for children and she meets their welfare and care needs effectively. Children receive continuity of care as their routines and achievements are shared between parents and the childminder.

The setting does meet the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care.

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

Not applicable.

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

There are no complaints to report 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):

- ensure the fire evacuation procedure is practised

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)