



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	140172
Inspection date	27 February 2006
Inspector	Sandra Wickham

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 1990. She lives with her 2 children aged 15 and 3 years in Tottenham, the London borough of Haringey. Areas to be accessible for childminding are the through lounge and dining room and kitchen. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The family has a Yorkshire terrier dog and a parrot.

The childminder currently has 1 child on roll of pre-school age.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health needs are being promoted well because the childminder meets all regulations with regard to maintaining accident and medication records. Children are becoming aware of good hygiene procedures, because the childminder encourages children to wash hands before eating and after messy play. Children are generally well nourished because the childminder meets parental wishes. Children's independence skills are being promoted as the childminder makes meal times an opportunity to help children to enjoy food and become independent at feeding themselves. Children are becoming aware of foods that are good for the body, when the childminder talks about the different names of fruit. Children have regular access to physical play opportunities both indoors and outdoors, because the childminder takes children to local parks and toddler groups. Children's individual rest needs are met and children are able to rest safely and comfortably in the childminder's care. In the event of an accident or emergency, children will be responded to appropriately as the childminder holds a current first aid certificate. The childminder has a good range of first aid supplies accessible on the premises and appropriate emergency contingency plans in place. The childminder has agreed to follow up information for Birth to three matters to develop her practice.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to move around safely, freely and independently. Children are easily able to select toys and resources from the range of equipment, which meet safety standards. Children are becoming aware of how to keep themselves safe as the childminder gives gentle reminders to move toys out of the way, so they do not fall over. Children are also made aware of the green cross code when out with the childminder. Children are secure and confident in the environment as the childminder takes steps to reduce children's access to hazards on the premises, by installing smoke alarms and having safety gates in place across the bottom of the stairs. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection procedures, having undertaken training on this topic. Children are protected by her knowledge of possible signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect and the childminder is aware of the relevant procedures to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well settled at the childminder's house and make themselves at home. Children's independent skills are developing as they chose their own activities from the box of toys nearby. Although a range of toys and resources are in place, there is a lack of resources and activities to provide children with sufficient challenge in their

development. The childminder knows the children well. She makes sure the resources provide children with sufficient challenge to stimulate their creative needs and senses. The childminder encourages children to learn words and meaning by effective interaction in response to rhymes and games. Children enjoy exploring and investigating the toys and resources which make various sounds and flash different colours. They are able to mirror the childminder by clapping their hands together and smiling with contentment with her when she sings nursery rhymes or talks to them.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children learn about cultural and racial diversity, gender and disability through the meaningful range of resources and activities. Children become aware of their differing backgrounds and learn to value and respect these. Children's individual needs and family backgrounds are known and effectively met. Children are pleased when they receive praise from the childminder, for example, when they join in clapping their hands together or hold their feeding cup or select resources by themselves. This enhances their self-esteem and encourages them to try new challenges and make progress. Good partnerships with parents ensure children are consistently cared for, both at home and when with the childminder. Children behave very well with the childminder. Children feel settled and comfortable. They have time to relax as well as be active.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are happy and at ease in the well-organised, child-centred environment. Space and resources are presented in a such a way whereby children can confidently initiate and extend their own play and learning. The childminder is extending her own learning on caring for children and is developing her practice to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. The childminder ensures daily dialogue is exchanged with parents regarding children's development. This all contributes to continuity in the children's care. Good planning systems are in place which keep children healthy and safe, and enables them to make good progress in all areas of their development. The setting is meeting the needs of the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

The childminder has developed her systems for recording all children's details whilst in her care and maintains a daily attendance register with the times of arrival and departure.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since April 2004, there has been one complaint relating to National Standard 1 -

Suitable Person, National Standard 3 - Care, Learning and Play, National Standard 6 - Safety and National Standard 12 - Working in Partnership with Parents and Carers. The complaint related to the supervision of children and children's individual needs not being met. Ofsted carried out an unannounced visit and found that standards had been breached. The childminder was served a compliance notice and took appropriate action to meet the standards. The childminder remains qualified for registration.

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):

- develop toys and activities to provide children with more challenge and more opportunities for creative play

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