



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	140369
Inspection date	28 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 2000. She lives with her husband and their 3 children, 1 of adult age and 2 children aged 11 and 10 years, in Tottenham, in the London Borough of Haringey. Areas to be accessible for childminding are the ground floor back room, hallway, first floor toilet and bathroom and the garden.

The childminder currently has 2 children on roll, 1 of pre-school age and 1 attending full time education.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health needs are fully promoted because the childminder meets all regulations with regard to maintaining accident and medication records. Children are becoming aware of learning about good hygiene practices. Children are well nourished because the childminder meets parental wishes to provide varied and nutritious meals and snacks, and offers regular drinks. Younger children's independence skills are being fully promoted because the childminder makes mealtimes an opportunity to help children to enjoy food and become independent at feeding themselves. Children have regular access to physical play opportunities both indoors and outdoors, because the childminder takes children to local parks and toddler groups. Young children's physical skills are improving well as they take confident steps around the room to investigate the toys and equipment. Children are able to rest safely and comfortably in the childminder's care. Children can expect to be responded to appropriately in the event of an accident or emergency as the childminder has a good range of first aid supplies that are easily accessible on the premises, and has appropriate emergency contingency plans in place. The childminder has agreed to develop her practice with information available from Birth to three matters.

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 activities from the range of good quality toys and equipment, which meet safety standards. Children are becoming aware of how to keep themselves safe as the childminder gives gentle guidance about tidying toys away so no one falls, and talks to children about road safety. Children are secure and confident in the environment, the childminder takes steps to reduce children's access to hazards on the premises. For instance, smoke alarms are fitted on the premises and a fire blanket is accessible in the kitchen. The childminder has a secure understanding of child protection procedures, having undertaken training and assessments 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 good.

Children are well settled at the childminder's house and make themselves at home. They relate well to each other. Children are very independent as they choose their own activities from the various toys and resources. The childminder knows the children well. Children are provided with sufficient challenge to stimulate their

creative needs and sensors, and encourages children to learn words and meaning by effective interaction in response to rhymes and games. The children spend their time purposefully. They enjoy exploring and investigating the many varied toys and resources which contribute to their creativity and stage of development. They are fascinated by the cause and effect of mark making, when the childminder helps the children to hold the pen and draw on paper or mirroring the childminder by clapping their hands together and smiling with contentment with her when she sings songs and nursery rhymes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children learn about cultural and racial diversity, gender and disability through some of the activities. Although, the toys and resources accessible do not fully promote children's awareness of cultural awareness. Children feel valued and respected. Their individual needs and family backgrounds are known and effectively met, for example, birthdays are celebrated with a party. Children are pleased when they receive praise from the childminder when they join in clapping their hands together 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 all the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

The childminder has developed her systems for meeting children's health needs and her knowledge of child protection. The childminder has improved her organisation of record keeping.

Complaints since the last inspection

There been no complaints made to Ofsted 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 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):

- developing systems for improving toys and resources that promote positive images of gender, cultural and disability

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