

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 105784

Inspection date20 February 2006InspectorBeverley Jarrett

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 was registered in 1993. She lives with her husband, an adult son, an adult woman and a grandson, in the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The living room, one bedroom and the hallway of the childminder's home are used for childminding.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 3 children at any one time and is currently minding 1 child under 5 all day and 1 child over 5 after school. The childminder walks to local schools to collect children. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler group and is a member of the National Childminder

Association.

The family has no pets.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is well promoted, as the childminder maintains good levels of hygiene throughout her home. The children do not attend if they have an infection or feel unwell. As a result they are protected from unnecessary illness. Children are learning good hygiene practices through daily routines.

Children are able to access drinks independently throughout the day. Parents provide some of the food for their children. Children are fed in warm, comfortable surroundings where their emotional wellbeing is supported effectively, giving them security and confidence.

The routine meets the children's care needs; appropriate times are set aside for rest and play. Children are able to participate in a range of outdoor play activities for fresh air and exercise, which promotes their wellbeing.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming home. They are able to explore comfortably and safely as the childminder has identified and minimised risks. Children have suitable access to furniture and equipment to meet their needs. For example, at meal times high chairs are available. When children are taken on outings the childminder ensures their safety at all times.

Children independently select activities from a wide range of good quality toys and equipment, which meet safety standards. The childminder carefully monitors and supervises children's choice of toys to make sure they are safe and appropriate for their age and stage of development.

The childminder has all the required procedures and documents in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted. For example, the childminder holds a current first aid certificate and has a sound understanding of the procedures to follow if she has concerns about children in her care. This is in line with Child Protection procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy regular outings to child friendly settings, such as toddler groups. This

gives them a chance to explore new activities and enjoy relationships with other children. Children have easy access to adequate toys and activities.

Children are learning about their local environment as they explore the parks and other areas of interest, sometimes venturing further afield. As a result children are becoming aware of the world they live in and how things fit into it.

The childminder encourages the children to develop their language skills and helps them make sense of the world in which they live. They respond well to her involvement in their play and conversation. Children receive lots of warm, individual attention, which enables them to extend their learning and experiences. Children are happy, relaxed and confident with the childminder.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are secure and comfortable as their individual needs are met by the childminder. The childminder ensures that parents share information about their child's individual needs, routine and interests and follows these through. Children receive consistent care as there is a daily exchange of information with parents about the children's day.

Children are learning to understand responsible behaviour and have regard for the needs of others through the childminder's consistent and positive management of their behaviour. Children develop a sense of right and wrong through her use of praise to encourage good behaviour. Children are happy and confident.

The childminder demonstrates an awareness of working with children who have a special need and a commitment to work closely with parents and other agencies to ensure that their individual needs are met.

Children have access to toys and resources that enable them to become aware of the wider society and gain an understanding of diversity.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The children feel at home and at ease within the well organised surroundings. This means they are happy, secure, developing in confidence and enjoy a warm nurturing relationship with the childminder.

Policies and procedures are used effectively to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. They are shared regularly with parents to keep them well informed about the service and their children's wellbeing. This contributes to continuity in the children's care. However, suitable checks have not been carried out on all persons in the home who have access to children.

The childminder demonstrates a commitment to further training and updating her

childcare knowledge and skills. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the childminder agreed to confirm in writing the status of a household member and if necessary obtain a CRB form, and complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children, a compliance notice was served in relation to both of these actions on 30/03/2005. She also agreed to inform Ofsted of any relevant changes and matters, before the event wherever possible, where this is not possible to inform Ofsted within 14 days of the event; ensure that all hazardous items including razors and trailing wires are inaccessible to children; keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children; obtain medication consent forms; ensure that parents sign after each entry in an accident book; increase the range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice; ensure that all records relating to childminding activities are maintained and are readily accessible on the premises at all times.

As a result, children's wellbeing is safeguarded, as the childminder ensures that Ofsted is kept informed of all changes to persons living or working on the premises. There was no available evidence to show that a CRB form had been obtained for one household member, however, as part of the inspection the childminder took immediate steps to ensure that CRB checks were instigated. The childminder has completed training in first aid and is able to administer appropriate treatment to children as required. All hazardous items are now inaccessible to children and ensures their safety at all times. Written records are now available to record accidents and medication administered. All required parental signatures are in place. A range of activities and resources promoting equality and anti-discriminatory practice is now in place. This helps children to develop positive attitudes towards themselves and others in society. All records relating to childminding activities are maintained and accessible at all times, this contributes to the safe and efficient management of the child care that is offered.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have 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 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 that all members of the household have relevant CRB check

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