



Inspection report for early years provision

**Unique Reference Number** EY278923  
**Inspection date** 02 December 2005  
**Inspector** Christine Lynne Hodge

**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](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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in February 2004. She lives with her 2 teenage children aged 17 and 18 years in Plumstead, in the London Borough of Greenwich. The ground floor is used for childminding purposes. Children also have access to the first floor bathroom. The garden is not included in the registration.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding a nine month old baby three days a week. The childminder takes and collects children from local schools.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is inadequate.

Children's health and welfare is not actively promoted as the childminder does not have written consent from parents for seeking emergency medical advice/treatment. She has administered medication to a child with out written instructions from parents and has not recorded the medication given in her medication record book.

Children are cared for in a clean, well kept environment. The childminder has suitable routines to protect children from the spread of infection. For example, she washes her hands before preparing food and uses disposable gloves for nappy changing. Verbal discussions with parents ensure that children who are unwell are cared for at home. Children are encouraged to develop personal hygiene by washing their hands after going to the toilet and before meal times.

As the garden is not registered children are taken out to the local park where they benefit from fresh air and use the play equipment to help them develop their large motor skills. Indoors, babies have space to crawl around and pull themselves up on the furniture to develop their physical skills. There are very few resources which help children to develop their fine motor skills. The childminder's up-to-date knowledge of first aid ensures that children are cared for appropriately in the event of accidents.

The childminder demonstrates an understanding of healthy eating and complies with parent's individual wishes and requirements. For example, parents have the choice of providing food for their children or the childminder will cook a combination of Somalian and English dishes. She provides children with fresh fruit and vegetables.

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

The provision is inadequate.

Children are not protected as the childminder does not have sufficient knowledge and understanding of child protection. She is not aware of the four categories of abuse and does not have a copy of the Sure Start guideline "What to do if You are Worried a Child is Being Abused. Several safety precautions in the home are not in place. For example, there is no safety gate to prevent children's access to the stairs, several socket covers are missing and the fire blanket is not accessible in the kitchen should a fire occur. The childminder does not have sufficient equipment such as a highchair and travel cot to meet the needs of children attending.

The childminder has effective procedures to keep children safe on outings. Babies and younger children are strapped into the buggy or hold the childminder's hand. She talks to older children about road safety.

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

The provision is inadequate.

There are insufficient toys, activities and play opportunities available to promote the emotional, social, physical and intellectual capabilities of babies and children under 8 years. Play resources consist solely of a box of Duplo bricks and a few rattles.

The childminder does not demonstrate how she promotes young children's development through activities and play opportunities. She is not familiar with the Birth to three matters framework.

Babies and young children enjoy a warm trusting relationship with the childminder. She gives lots of cuddles when children become tired or get upset.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children and families from all cultures and religions are welcomed into the childminder's home. She supports children's individual needs by encouraging babies and young children to follow their individual routines for sleeping, eating and playing. The childminder is unsure about caring for a child with special needs but will talk to parents to find out about children's individual needs, and special requirements before making a decision. There are no play resources which reflect diversity and show positive images of culture, gender and disability

The childminder uses appropriate strategies for managing children's behaviour. She uses distraction for babies and younger children and talks to older children about unwanted behaviour, stopping treats and rewards if necessary.

Positive relationships with parents contribute to children's care and well being. The childminder works with parents to meet children's needs and keep them informed about their child's day. She does this by sharing information when children are dropped off and collected. Contracts and child record forms are completed.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is inadequate.

The childminder does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Much of the documentation required for caring for children is not in use. The attendance register and medication record book have not been completed. The childminder does not have parent's written consent for the administration of medication and for seeking emergency medical advice/ treatment. She is not familiar with the need to have a system in place for recording complaints.

The childminder has completed registration training and first aid training. Both she

and her daughter have been vetted however, however she has failed to ensure her 17 year son has been appropriately vetted.

The premises are not organised so that children can play safely and there is insufficient equipment and play resources to meet the developmental and learning needs of young children. The daily routine revolves around children's individual needs.

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

Not Applicable

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

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaint 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- develop knowledge and understanding of child protection
- provide a suitable range of play resources, activities and equipment for all children under 8 years and extend the range for babies in line with the Birth to three matters framework.
- ensure that children's safety is promoted at all times by having in place necessary precautions such as a stair gate, socket covers and fire blanket
- ensure that all required documentation including the attendance register, medication and accident records, a complaints log and written consent from parents for seeking emergency medical advice is in place and where necessary is signed by parents.

- ensure that all household members, 16 years of age and over are appropriately vetted.

These actions are set out in a **notice of action to improve** and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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)