

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	117748
Inspection date	19 September 2007
Inspector	Jean Williams
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 2001. She lives with her two school-age children in Hanwell, in the London borough of Ealing. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding purposes. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. Schools, parks and shops are within walking distance. A bus service runs nearby.

The childminder is registered to care for six children under eight years, there are currently seven children on roll who attend on a full and part time basis.

The childminder attends local parent and toddler groups and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted because the childminder maintains a high level of cleanliness throughout her home, which means that children benefit from being cared for in a clean

environment. Through the regular routines, good examples and clear explanations given by the childminder, children are learning about and developing good personal hygiene skills. Suitable policies and procedures are in place to manage children's sickness and accidents. The childminder has systems in place to record the administration of medication and accidents appropriately as is required. The childminder has attended a first aid course but does not have a current first aid certificate in place.

Meal times are sociable occasions. The children sit at the table for their meals. They enjoy home cooked meals such as chicken with fresh vegetables or shepherds pie. Fresh fruit and yoghurts and jelly are offered as puddings. Snacks consist of fruit or biscuits. Children are offered fresh drinks at regular intervals throughout the day.

Children enjoy regular exercise when walking to and from school. They play in the garden in fine weather and also enjoy trips to the local park where they are able to climb, run and balance when using the equipment. This encourages the children's physical development

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder ensures that the home is clean, comfortable and welcoming to the children, as a result they benefit from being cared for in a child friendly environment. There is plenty of space where children can play and move around in safety. Toys are stored so that they are easily accessible to the children.

Children's safety is mainly promoted because the childminder has taken steps to minimise most hazards. There are locks fitted to cupboard doors in the kitchen and all hazardous materials are safely stored. However, some electrical sockets that are within easy reach of the children are not fitted with protective covers. The garden is safely enclosed and the shed is locked, but the hose pipe is not stored safely and is a trip factor to both children and adults.

The childminder has considered a suitable fire evacuation procedure that she would follow in the event of an emergency. She has a fire blanket in place and smoke alarms are fitted in the home. Children are learning to take responsibility for their own safety when they are walking with the childminder to and from school and when crossing the roads.

Children are safeguarded because the childminder has a clear understanding of the possible signs and symptoms of potential child abuse and is aware of her role and responsibility in reporting child protection concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are content and happy in the childminder's care. There is good warm interaction between the childminder and the minded children, which enables them to develop confidence in her care. The childminder is aware of the children's individual needs and interests and provides for them accordingly. Children play with a wide range of toys and resources that are easily accessible and promote their learning.

The children enjoyed sharing story time with the childminder when they were looking at the books and comparing the differences of the people illustrated in the pictures.

In fine weather children play in the garden. The childminder also takes them to the local park where they can enjoy the open space and the equipment which they use to climb and slide on.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are learning about themselves and their identity through discussions and explanations with the childminder and by sharing books that include positive images and illustrations. They are also gaining an awareness of the wide variety of celebrations that different cultures celebrate by being cared for in a diverse, cultural community. The childminder has a variety of suitable toys and resources such as books, puzzles and small world people that help the children to learn about different customs and cultures of the world. The childminder shows respect to the children and values their individuality.

Children's behaviour is good, they are well supported by the childminder who provides them with consistent boundaries which helps them to feel secure within the setting. Children have good relationships with one another and the childminder, who praises their positive behaviour. This helps the children to know what is expected of them.

Children's welfare and development is promoted because the childminder has formed good working relationships with parents. She carries out their wishes and provides consistent care to their children.

Information about the individual children's routines and achievements are shared verbally between the parents and the minder each day.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder gives her time and attention to the children, she is kind and interested in what they are doing, as a result children are happy and contented in her care.

Children play confidently and the childminder supports them well. There is plenty of space in the home for the children to play and relax. The childminder provides a variety of activities for the children as well as taking them out for walks to the local parks.

The childminder has good systems in place for record keeping. The required paperwork is kept as is required, which ensures that the care and welfare of the children is maintained. The registration certificate is displayed as is required. The childminder also has policies and procedures in place that she shares with parents.

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 was asked to ensure that she made resources available that reflect positive images of disability to the children. This has been achieved through the use of books and small world people and means that children are learning about differences.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards. 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 there is evidence of a first aid course having been completed
- ensure that electrical sockets are protected
- ensure that the garden is free of hazards

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk