



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	144468
Inspection date	15 December 2005
Inspector	Moreen Johnson

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder registered since January 1994. She lives with her husband, adult son and another son aged 7 in Stamford Hill in the London borough of Hackney. The living room, the kitchen and one bedroom are used for childminding. The childminder collects children from the local primary school and attends local groups and the library.

There are currently 3 children under 8 years on roll.

The childminder does not have any pets.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminder's Association and is also a member of the Hackney childminding network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted well by the childminder who has a secure knowledge of health and safety procedures. The childminder is aware of most of the appropriate records that she is required to keep in writing. However, she does not obtain written consent from parents to seek emergency medical treatment for the children.

Children are develop good understanding about personal hygiene. The childminder encourages them to wash their hands before eating. She follows good hygiene practices and maintains a good standard of cleanliness throughout her home.

Children benefit from a healthy diet for the childminder offers them a variety of nutritious meals and snacks. She also gives them access to drinks at regular intervals. The childminder works in partnership with parents, takes the children's individual needs into account and respects the parents' wishes relating to special needs.

The childminder is developing an awareness of Birth to three matters and has been proactive in seeking guidance on how to use the Birth to three matters framework to improve her practice.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe secure home in which activities are well organised and easily accessible to them.

Children enjoy playing with a wide range of good quality resources, which include an excellent selection of toys and books that reflect diversity. Children are protected well by the childminder having good procedures in place to eliminate potential hazards. She closely supervises children as they move around the house and they use appropriate safety equipment. For example by strapping the highchair whilst eating and by using safety gates to prevent children from gaining unsupervised access to the kitchen.

Children are protected from harm because the childminder has a clear understanding of how to put child protection procedures into practice in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and relaxed and have good relationship with the childminder and other children. Children benefit from having access to good resources, which are planned well by the childminder in accordance with the children's interest and stage of their development. They enjoy exploring a wide range of stimulating activities which contribute to their communication skills such as engaging in meaningful conversations and reading.

Children are developing their independence and confidently choose activities. They have good opportunities to play by themselves and with other children, the childminder has a good understanding of when to intervene to provide children with support and encouragement.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children are valued and respected and their individual needs are well met. They learn about other cultures by having access to resources that portray positive images and by socialising with children from other backgrounds. They develop an interest in the community by visiting local facilities.

Children are developing a good understanding of appropriate behaviour and learn to distinguish between right and wrong. The childminder focus on children's positive behaviour and use an effective range of suitable methods by which to management inappropriate behaviour.

Partnership with parents is good. Children benefit from effective relationships between the childminder and their parents. There are good procedures in place to share information with parents about daily events and parents are encouraged to express their opinion about the service that the childminder provides.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised home which is safe and secure. Children make good progress in all areas of their development and are supported well by the childminder. Most policies and procedures are in place but the childminder has not obtained written consent from parents to seek emergency medical treatment for children. Children have continuity of care, as a result of the good lines of communication between the childminder and parents in sharing information and records. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

The childminder has complied with the recommendations made at the last inspection. She has devised a good written behavioural management policy, which is shared with parents. She now ensures that children's attendance records states arrival and departure times and she has an excellent range of resources that reflect diversity.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since April 2004.

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.

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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 the fire blanket is sited in the kitchen where it is easily accessible in the event of an emergency
- ensure that you obtain parents written consent to seek emergency medical treatment for children.

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