

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY101103
Inspection date	07 February 2008
Inspector	Angela Ramsey
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 August 2002. She lives with her husband and two children aged

eleven and fourteen years. They live in a four bedroom town house in the London Borough of Southwark. The whole of the first floor, which has a playroom, sitting room and bathroom are used for childminding purposes. The children sometimes use the downstairs family living room and have access to the garden for outside play.

The childminder is currently registered to care for five children under eight years at any one time. She is currently caring for six children aged under eight years. Only five of which are cared for at any one time and one child aged over eight years.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean and well-maintained home. The childminder teaches children the importance of hygiene. Pictorial signs displayed in the bathroom remind children to wash their hands before eating and after using the bathroom. The childminder has a good awareness of children's health care matters. She has implemented policies and procedures, such as excluding children who are ill or infectious. This protects children from infections.

Any accidents that may occur and the administration of medication are recorded. The childminder has successfully completed a first aid course. However, parental permission to seek emergency treatment has not been obtained. Therefore, parents wishes are not known.

Children have access to a good range of activities which contribute to their health and well-being. For example, children are able to ride wheeled toys in the childminders' garden, or using fixed play equipment in the local park.

Healthy meals and snacks are prepared by the childminder. The meals are balanced and children are provided with fresh fruit and vegetables on a daily basis. This contributes to children's healthy growth and development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to play with a varied range of good quality toys and resources. The childminder makes sure these are age appropriate. Children are able to independently choose from a selection of toys and resources that are stored in suitable containers.

Fire safety is good, smoke alarms and a fire blanket are in place. Fire evacuation procedures are displayed and practised with the children. This ensures children know how to leave the premises swiftly and safely. Safety items such as cupboard and drawer catches, socket covers, a stair gate are in place to prevent accidents.

The childminder's understanding of child protection procedures are good. She has a good understanding of the procedure to follow should she have any concerns. This knowledge ensures children are well protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's overall development is promoted as they are able to engage in a wide range of activities. Children are able to play in the dedicated play room. This room has posters of animals, the alphabet, times tables and, numbers displayed.

Brightly coloured toys, that light up and make sounds when buttons are pressed, are available. These toys promote children's hand eye coordination and fine motor skills. Children are able to complete puzzles, engage in role play and look at books.

Opportunities for children to broaden their experiences and enjoy outings are also provided. When shopping at the supermarket with the childminder, children buy ingredients for cooking activities. They enjoy making pizzas and pancakes.

Children are able to be creative as they make collages using card board boxes, paint and coloured paper.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The childminder's home is comfortable and welcoming as a result children make themselves at home. The childminder has built trusting relationships with the children in her care. Children learn about their local community and the natural world as they visit parks and shop in local shops and supermarkets. Through looking at books, playing with dolls and dressing up children are introduced to different cultures. Celebrating festivals such as Eid also helps children learn about other religions.

Children behave well and form positive relationships with each other as they learn to share and play cooperatively. The childminder has devised a behaviour management policy which states that she takes into account child's age and stage of development when managing children's behaviour. Certificates are awarded for positive behaviour.

Partnership with parents is good. Procedures are effective in ensuring that children are cared for according to parents' wishes. Written agreements are in place as are completed child detail forms. Parents are informed daily of their child's day. Letters and cards from parents express positive comments about the care the childminder has provided.

A complaints procedure has been devised, it contains the name and address and telephone number of Ofsted, enabling parents to contact the regulator should they need to do so.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Documents are well kept and stored securely when not in use, to maintain confidentiality. Policies and procedures have been devised and are made available to parents. These inform parents of the care and how the childminder ensures that children are safe whilst in her care.

The childminding space is effectively organised so that children have the use of rooms, which are child-orientated and comfortable. Ratios are maintained. Children have good access to quieter activities, free play activities and outdoor play.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

The last inspection required that the childminder: develop activity plans for children to include details of planned home based activities and develop procedures to keep parents informed about their child's development.

The childminder plans activities and talks to parents on a regular basis regarding their children's development. The implementation of these providing of these ensures a varied range of activities are provided and parents are kept up to date of their child's developmental progress.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any further action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to have procedures for dealing with concerns and complaints from parents and to keep a record of complaints and their outcome.

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 parents provide written consent regarding emergency treatment or advice

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