



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY101180
Inspection date	03 October 2006
Inspector	Sandra Wickham

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 satisfactory. 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 2002. She lives with her husband and their daughter aged under 16 years, in Edmonton, London borough of Enfield. Access to the premises is via the ground floor. Areas used are the living room, kitchen, one bedroom and toilet and balcony, which are all on the upper floor which are used for child minding purposes. The lower floor is not used for childminding purposes. The childminder currently has two children on roll of school age.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health needs are met because the childminder meets regulations with regards to maintaining accident records. Children are well nourished in line with parental wishes. Although

children's independence skills are being promoted, this is not carried through consistently to ensure children can freely access resources to lead their own play. Children have regular access to physical play, both indoors and outdoors as the childminder takes children to local parks. The childminder has updated her first aid training, holds a valid first aid certificate, and has a good range of first aid supplies and appropriate emergency contingency plans in place. The childminder has attended training for the Birth to three matters framework to develop her practice.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are able to move around freely and independently. The childminder ensures all toys and resources meet safety standards. Children are secure and confident in the environment. The childminder takes steps to minimise hazards. For example, smoke alarms are in place on the premises and a fire blanket sited in the kitchen. Children are encouraged to be aware of safety inside and outside the home when with the childminder. The childminder ensures all toys and resources are age appropriate. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection procedures, having undertaken training and assessments on this topic. Children are protected by her knowledge of possible signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect and the childminder is aware of the relevant procedures to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder knows the children well and has a satisfactory understanding of their needs. Children interact well with the childminder. The childminder listens well and values what children say, which enhances their self esteem. Children show good levels of engagement and concentration with the sparse amount of resources accessible to them. The childminder does have a varied range of resources and equipment in place on the premises, that would contribute to the developmental needs of all children. However, on the day of inspection children only had access to a pre-printed colouring book and action man doll, which did not provide them with sufficient challenges or choices.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have some opportunities to learn about cultural and racial diversity, gender and disability with the resources in place. Children are aware of their differing backgrounds and learn to value and respect these differences. Their individual needs and family backgrounds are known and effectively met, for example, birthdays are celebrated at tea time. Good systems are in place for developing good partnerships with parents, to ensure children are consistently cared for, both at home and when with the childminder.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are settled and comfortable in the environment. The childminder continues to extend her knowledge to promote the welfare and care of children by having all necessary documentation and children's details in place. The childminder organises space well. The childminder ensures daily dialogue is exchanged with parents regarding children's development. The childminder acknowledges there are improvements to be made to ensuring children have access to a good range of activities and resources that are age appropriate and support their needs. This all contributes to continuity in the children's care. 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 needed to develop her systems to monitor the working order of the smoke alarms; develop her knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow; request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

The childminder has attended training to improve her knowledge and understanding of child protection. She has improved her systems for record keeping ensuring parent's consent is obtained to seek emergency medical advice or treatment, and improved her systems to ensure smoke alarms are tested at regular intervals.

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 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 satisfactory. 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):

- develop systems to ensure that children can access a suitable range of activities and resources that is age appropriate and stimulating and promotes equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice

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