



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY103883
Inspection date	06 July 2006
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.

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 May 2001. She lives in a three bedroomed house in Plumstead, in the London Borough of Greenwich with her husband and two children aged 11 and 14 years. All areas of the property are used for childminding except for two bedrooms. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder may care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time. She is currently minding six children, five of whom are under five years, two of whom are full time.

The childminder attends the local carer and toddler group on a regular basis. She is a Greenwich Network Childminder, a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA) and is a member of the Care to Learn Project for teenage parents.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean, homely environment where the childminder has good procedures in place to promote children's health and protect them from the spread of infection. Children learn about the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines such as hand washing after toileting, playing in the garden and before meal times. Milton anti bacterial hand gel is used in the home and on outings. The childminder's sick child policy which requires parents to collect unwell children and keep them home for 48 hours ensures that children are protected from cross infection. Medication and accident records are well maintained. The childminder is on a waiting list to update her first aid qualification which expired in April.

Children take part in a wide range of activities that promote their all round physical development with regular visits to the park and activity centres such as Tigers Eye and Wale of a Time. A well equipped garden provides children with good opportunities for outdoor play using the slide, climbing frame and wheeled toys. Activities such as painting, drawing and puzzles help children to develop their fine motor skills.

Children enjoy a healthy balanced diet containing fresh fruit and vegetables, yogurts, pasta and chicken. Drinks of water, milk or juice are provided through out the day. The childminder talks to parents about children's likes, dislikes, allergies and caters for children's special dietary requirements.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children can play and relax in a safe, welcoming setting where they have suitable space to move around in freely and confidently. The childminder ensures that positive steps are taken to minimise risks and keep children safe in her home and garden. For example, a fire blanket, smoke detectors, socket covers and safety gates help to protect children. The large adult pool in the garden is kept covered when children are present and the ladder is kept out of reach to protect children from falling in. Children are supervised at all times and when sleeping are monitored closely through the use of a baby monitor and regular checks. When travelling in the car children are kept safe by the use of appropriate seats and restraints. Equipment, furniture and toys are in good condition, easily accessible and meet the needs of the children.

Children are well protected by the vetting of household members and the childminder's secure knowledge and understanding of child protection and of her role and responsibility to record and refer any concerns to Social Services.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, settled and very much at home with the childminder and her family. Children confidently choose what they want to play with from a good range of toys and activities which

include puzzles, building bricks, books, cars, small world and V Tech Educational toys. Although the childminder does not formally plan activities she uses the Birth to three matters framework as guide to providing the children with a stimulating variety of activities through out the week to support their learning. Children take part in messy activities such as painting and play dough, they have time for free play and garden play and enjoy outings to toddler groups, parks, farms and activity centres.

Children respond well to the good interaction they receive from the childminder as she sits with them and joins in their play. She talks to them and asks lots of open ended questions to encourage their language development. She uses everyday activities in the children's play to help them learn their colours, numbers, letters and shapes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children and families are welcomed into the childminder's home regardless of culture, racial origin, language, gender and disability. Children's individual needs are met to help them to develop to their full potential. The childminder does this through lots of discussion with parents about children's routines, likes, dislikes, cultural and special requirements. Children learn about diversity and disability through play resources and books. Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are well supported.

Strategies for managing behaviour are appropriate to children's age and stage of development and are very much focused on positive reinforcement. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement to promote their self esteem. As a result children are happy, confident and well behaved. They play nicely together, share, take turns and say please and thank you. The childminder is currently working with parents to ensure that consistent behaviour management strategies are used at home as well as in the childminding setting.

Good working relationships with parents contribute to children's care and well being. The childminder works in partnership with parents on issues such as behaviour management and eating problems. She provides lots of support to teenage parents and has good systems in place for keeping parents informed about their child's day and progress. Contracts, child record and consent forms are completed. The childminder has not received a copy of the October 2005 criteria so is not aware of the need to have a complaints log for parents.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

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

Children and parents benefit from the childminder's professional approach to childminding. She is a Greenwich Network Childminder and a member of the Care To Learn Project providing childcare and support to teenage parents.

Children receive lots of adult support and attention. The childminder's home and play resources are well organised so that children can play safely and make independent choices. Although

the daily routine centres around school and playgroup runs the childminder ensure that children have time to play, rest and eat according to their needs.

All necessary documentation is in place, except for a complaints log, and is maintained in a confidential manner. The attendance register is completed daily and shows the children's times of arrival and departure. Contracts, child record forms and consent forms are completed for each child and medication and accident records are signed by parents.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to ensure that all glass ornaments are placed out of children's reach and to increase her knowledge and understanding of special needs. All glass ornaments have been removed to keep children safe. The childminder has systems in place to support children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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 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):

- update first aid training
- devise a procedure for recording complaints which parents are familiar with

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