

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY233797
Inspection date	12 December 2007
Inspector	Daphne Prescott
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.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives with her husband and three children aged one, four and nine years in Northolt in the London borough of Ealing. Part of the house is used for childminding and a enclosed garden is available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for three children at any one time and currently there are no children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder maintains clean premises and is able to describe clear systems to maintain satisfactory hygiene standards. For example, she washes her hands before and after food preparation. The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of how children's good health is promoted. She describes how children learn about their personal hygiene through

their normal daily routines. For example, they would wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before and after eating their meals. She describes how she implements an appropriate sickness policy as she protects children from infectious diseases by ensuring parents fully understand that sick children cannot be cared for. The childminder has training in first aid for infants and young children which helps towards ensuring that children are cared for appropriately.

From discussions the childminder demonstrates satisfactory understanding of encouraging children's healthy eating, including the need to have drinking water accessible at all times. The childminder says that she gathers information from parents regarding children's dietary requirements and allergies.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of the need to encourage physical exercise. She describes how children are taken for daily walks and visits to the local park, where she encourages the children to run around in the fresh air.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder's home is welcoming to children. Space has been organised to help children to explore independently, to play, and eat comfortably. Children have access to a range of toys and equipment. Toys are easily accessible for children which helps encourage their independence. The selection of toys and equipment are maintained by the childminder to ensure that children are kept safe from harm.

The childminder has taken action to ensure that risks inside her home have been minimised, so that children can play safely. There are appropriate fire safety measures to protect children, such as, smoke alarms and a fire blanket. However, the fire blanket is not fitted according to the manufacturer's instructions and compromises children's safety. The childminder ensures children will be safe in an emergency. She has devised a plan to ensure that children are escorted to safety quickly. The childminder describes sound procedures for how she encourages children to understand how to keep themselves safe outdoors. For example, she teaches them how to cross roads safely.

The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of her role and responsibility in child protection. For example, she is aware of the indicators of abuse and the procedures for reporting any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates that children's individual needs and interests are considered by the childminder when providing activities. She provides activities to promote children's enjoyment and achievement. For example, she demonstrates a sound understanding of how to encourage children's language development; she aims to encourage their language through reading stories and promoting good communication through close interaction with children.

The childminder describes how she involves herself with children's play and how she encourages the children to play with the toys provided. She describes providing a selection of activities and resources to include painting, drawing, play dough and puzzles. She describes that children learn how to play, take turns and socialise with others which helps to develop their social skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Through discussion, the childminder gives evidence of how each child in her care is treated with equal respect. Through activities the childminder demonstrates how she helps children to learn about cultural diversity and the wider world. Children with disabilities or learning difficulties are welcome in the childminder's home as she demonstrates a positive attitude towards promoting an inclusive environment.

The childminder shows a sound knowledge of behaviour management. She gives satisfactory examples of how she approaches a variety of situations for children of different ages. She describes the importance of praising and encouraging children to enable them to feel their contributions are valued and to enhance their self esteem.

The childminder demonstrates a satisfactory understanding of the issues to be shared with parents on a daily basis, which include the overall welfare and development of the child. For example, how they ate and how they participated in activities. The childminder completes contracts and children's personal information regarding their care with parents in order to promote consistency and continuity with what happens at home.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates that she has an organised approach to her childminding role. Daily routines are in place but are amended appropriately to respond to the different needs of the children cared for. She discusses how she ensures that the children are always supervised when they are playing indoors and outdoors to keep them safe. However, the fire blanket needs to be fitted.

The childminder demonstrated a sound knowledge and understanding of childcare. The range of toys and play resources needs to be developed to support and extend children's learning and development. The childminder keeps the required records that contribute to children's health, safety and wellbeing. She describes how children receive continuity of care as their routines and achievements are shared with parents. Overall, evidence suggests that the provision would meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder agreed to ensure that safety reins are used at all times to keep children secure in the high chair and gain written permission from parents for seeking emergency treatment or advice if necessary. The childminder has in place safety reins for the high chair. She is aware of obtaining written permission from parents for seeking emergency treatment or advice if necessary ensuring children's safety and wellbeing.

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

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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 the fire blanket is fitted according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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