

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY257733
Inspection date	28 September 2007
Inspector	Pamela Patricia Paisley

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 was registered in 2003. She lives with her husband and two children aged nine and 11 in Bromley, Kent. The whole ground floor and one bedroom on the first floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time. There are currently no children on roll. The family has two rabbits and the childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how children's good health is promoted. She has systems in place to gather information from parents regarding medical needs, dietary requirements and allergies.

She explains how she would ensure that her own practice protects children from cross infections, through washing her own hands before preparing food and after changing nappies.

Through discussion the childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of healthy eating, including the need to have drinking water accessible at all times. She describes how children would learn about the benefits of good hygiene practice, for example, through encouraging them to wash their hands after messy activities and going to the toilet.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how she keeps children safe on outings. She would ensure that young children are always strapped in a pushchair and talk to children about road safety and the benefits of holding hands when crossing the road. The childminder has taken action to ensure that hazards inside and outside of her home have been minimised, so that children can play safely. There is adequate safety equipment in place such as socket covers, cupboard locks and a fireguard; although the childminder has not devised and practised an escape plan.

There is a sufficient range of toys, play materials and equipment available. The childminder explained that she would supervise children's choice of play materials regularly and check them to make sure they are safe, clean and appropriate for different age groups of children. Through discussion the childminder showed a sound knowledge of child protection procedures and gave examples of how she would protect children in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

She has a daily activity plan in place so that a routine is established and incorporates a rest time for younger children. Through discussion the childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how to promote learning and adapt activities so that young children can take part. The childminder describes ways in which she would help to promote children's all round development needs. She would encourage children's language through reading stories and their creative skills through arts and crafts, painting and drawing.

The childminder explains how she would provide opportunities for children to socialise with other children of a similar age. For example, take them on regular outings to toddler groups, parks and local library. She would talk to them about their day and praise their achievements which helps to give them gain good self esteem.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrated a clear understanding of providing for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. She explains that children would learn about different cultures and beliefs through celebrating different festivals and taking part in cooking activities. The childminder describes different ways in which she would help children to settle in her care through encouraging a settling in period to help them feel comfortable.

The childminder describes ways in which she would build a good partnership with parents; give daily feed back about their children's day with regards to activities, outings and general well being. A daily diary sheet would be used for younger children and policies and procedures shared and discussed with parents. Through discussion the childminder demonstrated a sound knowledge of behaviour management, giving examples of how she would approach different situations.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has attended training since becoming registered to enable her to promote children's care, learning and play. The whole ground floor of her home is available for children and different rooms used for various activities. For example the living room is used as the main play area, dining room for messy play and meals and kitchen for cooking activities.

Most records, policies and procedures are in place; however the childminder has not devised and practised an escape plan. The childminder demonstrated a clear understanding of the importance of providing parents with the name and address of Ofsted if they wish to report a concern. Overall, evidence suggests that the childminder would meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

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.

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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):

- devise and practise an emergency escape plan

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