

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY272018
Inspection date	27 February 2008
Inspector	Deborah Kerry
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 2003. She lives with her family in a town house in Bow in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding activities with access to a secure, enclosed garden for outdoor play. The home is within easy access to shops and resources and use is made of local groups.

A maximum of five children under eight may attend at any one time and she is currently minding five children all of whom attend on a part-time basis. The childminder walks to take and collect children from local schools. The family has goldfish.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The childminder has a written policy with procedures for dealing with sick children which helps to promote their health and well-being. All necessary parental permission forms are in place regarding medication to effectively promote children's health and welfare. The childminder ensures that all resources are regularly cleaned and that toys are suitable for children's age

further ensuring their health is promoted well. Children are developing a good understanding of personal hygiene through the daily routine of washing their hands before they eat and after using the toilet.

Children have regular opportunities for exercise to promote their healthy growth and development through accessing the garden and regular outings to activity centres and the park. Children are able to rest according to their own needs, depending on their ages.

Children are provided with a variety of healthy foods each day to promote their continued good health. The childminder has weekly menus for the meals and snacks she provides which are shared with parents and their wishes are respected regarding children's individual dietary requirements. The childminder offers children drinks throughout the day to maintain optimum good health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder prepares her home and resources for children's arrival each day ensuring that these are suitable for the ages of the children present. Children have access to a secure garden which is free from hazards for outside physical play to promote their healthy development. Children are able to select resources for themselves from the range set out in the lounge within their reach. The childminder has in place written procedures for the emergency evacuation of her home which are practised periodically with minded children.

When on outings the childminder ensures that children are strapped into pushchairs, older children are taught about road safety which helps them to develop an understanding on how to keep themselves safe. The childminder carries out regular checks on all resources and equipment to ensure that there are no hazards accessible to minded children.

The childminder has in place a written statement on safeguarding children which ensures that their welfare is paramount. The childminder has clear, set documentation in place for her to follow should she have concerns about any children whilst in her care which includes local contact numbers.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled in the childminder's care, she chats freely with them and has a good understanding of their different needs and temperaments. Toys and resources are set out within their reach which enables children to choose what they want to play with, promoting their independence well. Children take part in a variety of activities each day which are planned in advance depending on the children's pattern of attendance and their ages. For example, children are taken on outings each morning which enhances their social skills. They have age-appropriate toys, the childminder reads stories to them and keeps to their home routines for eating and sleeping.

The childminder has attended training on the 'Birth to three matters' framework to enhance her practice when caring for children of this age group. She ensures that they have toys that she knows they like and enjoy. For example, they can access musical toys, shape sorters, a musical crawl pad, stacking cups which are all safe for their age. The childminder offers reassurance and cuddles to the children present which helps them to feel secure.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed into the childminder's home and she ensures that resources are suitable for their ages and individual needs. The childminder helps them to settle by encouraging new parents to bring their children for a trial visits before they start. Children's understanding of the wider world is developed through a range of different resources. For example, books, small world resources and play people. The childminder offers appropriate levels of support to meet children's individual needs and ensures that they are all included.

The childminder has in place a written policy on behaviour management which sets out clear expectations for children's behaviour. The rules are explained to children when they start in an appropriate manner suitable for their ages which enables them to understand. Children are learning to share, take turns and the childminder offers them positive praise which promotes children's self-esteem and confidence well.

The childminder gives parents copies of all her policies and procedures when their children start which provides them with all information on the childminder's practice. The childminder ensures that parents are kept fully informed about their child's day when they are collected both verbally and through written daily diaries. All children's details are kept up-to-date to ensure that appropriate care can be provided.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are protected and their welfare promoted as all adults in the house have undergone checks. The childminder ensures that all information on children and details on their care needs are kept up-to-date so that appropriate care can be provided. The childminder has attended relevant early years training to enhance her knowledge which also benefits the children in her care. The childminder has a range of policies and most documentation is in place and kept up-to-date. However, the attendance record is not always kept up-to-date.

The childminder plans activities for the children each day and she prepare resources and organises her home to ensure that their safety and well-being are effectively promoted. Children are given a high level of support which has a positive impact on their development. Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to obtain written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. This has now been completed all necessary permission slips are in place for all minded children which ensures that their welfare is promoted.

To ensure the written statement, that provides details of the procedures to be followed if parents have a complaint, contains Ofsted's contact details. The policy now includes Ofsted contact details so that parents are aware of how to contact Ofsted if they have any concerns.

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 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 that attendance registers are completed on a daily basis.

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