

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY274661
Inspection date	05 June 2008
Inspector	Rosemary Coburn
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 2003. She lives with her husband and two children aged 20 months, 8 years and 11 years old and a 14 year old foster child, in the Haggerston area within the London borough of Hackney. The sitting room and the dining area are the main areas used for childminding purposes.

There are no household pets. There are currently four children on roll; no children were present at the inspection.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and well maintained family environment. There are good standards of hygiene and suitable routines and procedures in place to support children's good health. For example, the childminder demonstrates that all the areas used for childminding, including the sleep/rest area in one of the bedrooms, are kept clean and tidy at all times. The

childminder commented that children are taught to wash their hands before eating and after toileting.

The childminder does not hold a current first aid certificate. However, she demonstrates that she has an understanding of how to respond in an emergency situation as she has an emergency medical plan in place, which incorporates recommendations made by NCMA. Information concerning children's individual or medical needs is recorded. There is a suitably stocked first aid box in place.

The childminder talks about how she provides children with healthy nutritious meals which are freshly cooked every day. She comments that fresh drinking water is readily available and meals provided meet children's individual dietary requirements or parents' preferences for their child.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Space is used effectively to meet children's different needs for playing, sleeping, resting and eating. Children can safely access a good range and depth of toys and equipment that is suitable for all ages. Toys are clean, conform to safety standards and provide stimulating and challenging learning opportunities.

The childminder has appropriate safety measures in place to ensure that risks have been minimised. For example smoke alarms are in good working order and safety plugs, fire blanket and safety gates are securely in place. The childminder says that children are closely supervised at all times and access to the kitchen area is restricted. However, the bedrooms and bathroom not used for childminding are accessible to children. This means that the risk to children's safety is not fully protected. The childminder demonstrates a suitable knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if she had any concerns about the welfare of a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Through discussion the childminder demonstrates a suitable understanding of how children are supported through different play experiences. For example, the childminder describes how she supports children's language development through sitting and reading books together. The childminder also describes how children's physical and social development is supported through play opportunities such as regular trips to the park and visits to local early years settings and local resources.

Children are provided with opportunities to learn and develop through a suitable range and depth of toys, resources and materials for indoor use which are kept in a clean and suitable condition. Toys and resources are age/stage appropriate and suitable to meet the developmental needs of all children. The childminder has an understanding of current childcare practices. She has completed relevant training to develop her knowledge and understanding of the needs of children under eight years old.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates that children in her care are valued and respected, she described how children's individual needs are met. For example, children benefit from a suitable range and depth of resources which promote equality of opportunity and diversity. The childminder showed a good understanding of the needs of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

The childminder describes appropriate behaviour methods. For example, children are encouraged to behave positively through praise and encouragement and suitable daily routines. The childminder acts as a suitable role model so that children can understanding the difference between right from wrong. The childminder demonstrates a commitment to working in partnership with parents. She advised that she regularly shares information with parents through discussion and documents relevant details, which she keeps confidentially.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder's home is clean, tidy, well maintained and well organised. Through discussion and observation the childminder demonstrates that her daily practice includes regular daily routines and planned activities for indoor and outdoor play. There are suitable arrangements in place for children to eat, sleep and rest.

Documentation relating to childminding activities are suitably maintained. The childminder does not hold a current first aid certificate. However, she has an emergency medical plan in place pending the completion of a suitable first aid course, for which she has written confirmation. The childminder demonstrates that she is committed to developing her knowledge and understanding of current childcare practices and protecting children's well being as she has completed the NVQ level 3 in childcare.

The childminder demonstrates that systems in place to record and keep relevant information about children in her care are suitable. Parents have access to the name, address and telephone number of Ofsted should they wish to make a complaint. Overall, evidence suggests that 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 was required to: maintain the conditions of registration including the numbers of children registered to care for at all times; complete an appropriate first aid course that includes training in first aid for infants and young children; assess the risks to children in relation to outings and take action to minimise these; keep an accurate daily attendance record on all children; improve knowledge and understanding of the requirements set out in regulations and set in place a procedure to notify Ofsted of relevant matters, namely the changes to household members and persons working on the premises.

The childminder ensures that the ratios are met at all times. The childminder still does not hold a current first aid certificate but has provided evidence to confirm that she has a place booked on a suitable first aid course, in the meantime she has an emergency medical plan in place which incorporates recommendations made by NCMA. The childminder has obtained written permission

from parents to take children on outings. The daily attendance register is kept up to date. The childminder has informed Ofsted of the number of children living in her household.

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):

- effective steps are to be taken to ensure that the bedrooms and bathroom not used by minded children are inaccessible to at all times.

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