

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY279340
Inspection date	30 November 2007
Inspector	S Campbell
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 2004. She lives with her adult son in a residential area in the Isle of Dogs the London borough of Tower Hamlets. The first floor of the childminder's maisonette and ground floor bathroom is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed front garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children at any one time and is currently one child under five full-time and two children before and after school. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent/toddler group. The family have a pet gold fish.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean home. The childminder adopts appropriate hygiene standards to promote children's good health. Children are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times and there are satisfactory procedures in place when changing babies to minimise the spread of infection.

The childminder has obtained children's emergency contact details and written consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. This means that parents can be contacted in the event of an emergency or if children become ill while at the childminder's home. The childminder is aware of the procedures to follow for the administration of medication. However, systems have yet to be implemented to record medicines given to children.

Children's individual dietary needs are known and met because the childminder has obtained relevant information about their dietary requirements to ensure they receive the correct foods. The childminder provides children's meals and they receive a range of health foods, such as chicken, pasta bake, Sheppard's pie and vegetables. This helps children develop healthy eating habits from a young age.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are happy and as a result they are well settled. Children have access to a range of age appropriate toys to support their learning and development. The resources on offer are in good repair, bright and colourful, which captures babies' interest.

Children play in a safe environment because there are appropriate safety measures in place and they are adequately supervised to minimise any potential accidents.

The childminder has some knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and procedures. However, children are not fully safeguarded because the childminder is not fully secure in the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against her or others and the different types of abuse.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children receive a lot of warmth and care from the childminder. The children regularly attend a local parent and toddler group, which allows them to interact with their peers and others. During the day babies contently sit on the childminder's lap and smile in a response to the tone of her voice. The childminder responds well to children's babbles promoting language development.

The childminder engages older children in cooking activities, such as baking bread and cakes. They are able to develop their imaginative skills through participating in a range of craft activities, for example painting sewing and jewellery making.

Children receive lots of cuddles and kisses and as a result they are at ease and comfortable in their surroundings. Overall, children are making sound progress in their development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has a positive attitude towards diversity, which builds upon children's self-esteem and confidence. However, not all relevant information has been obtained about children's background, for example culture, religion and first language.

The childminder uses appropriate strategies to manage children's behaviour, which help children learn right from wrong. The childminder offers children lots of praise and uses an egg timer to encourage children to share and take turns with their peers.

The childminder has developed positive relationships with parents and at the beginning and end of the day information is exchanged about children's well-being and progress. The childminder maintains progress reports and these are shared with parents. However, progress reports do not include sufficient detail about children's milestones and achievements. The childminder has obtained all relevant written parental consent and relevant information is shared with parents, such as the complaints procedure.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Since the last inspection the childminder has attended a number of courses and is currently working towards a Level 3 child care course. This ensures she is able to provide appropriate care for the children she looks after.

The childminder maintains appropriate documentation to record children's attendance. However, not all children's accurate hours of attendance are recorded to ensure they are fully safeguarded in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Most required documentation is in place and well maintained to promote children's well-being. Documentation is readily available for inspection. The childminder ensures relevant records are shared and available for parents to see, such as her certificate of registration and complaints procedure. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the childminder has obtained written parental consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment; the childminder is aware of the procedures to follow before giving medication to children and the childminder has devised a sick child policy and this is shared fully with parents. This promotes the welfare of children while at the setting. However, systems have yet to be developed for the administration of medication.

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):

- develop systems to record medication given to children
- further develop knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and procedures
- further develop children's progress reports to include detailed information of their milestones and achievements and share these with parents
- further develop systems to include information about children's culture, religion and first language
- consistently record all children's accurate hours of attendance

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