



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY280290
Inspection date	03 November 2006
Inspector	Deborah Wilkinson

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 who was registered in 2004, lives with her husband and three school aged children in a two bedroom flat on the 18th floor in a block in Swiss Cottage. The premises is near to the Swiss Cottage community centre, the library and a local playground.

The living room, one bedroom and the hall are used as the main childminding areas. There is no outside play area available and the children have regular outings when they visit the local facilities.

The childminder who is registered to care for three children under eight years is currently looking after twins.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean, well organised environment with good measures in place to prevent the spread of infection. Although the childminder does not generally give the children medication, she has done so but has failed to keep a record of this and has not obtained consent from the parents to do so.

Children are active and their physical skills are developing. They have plenty of space to move around and enjoy playing football in the long hall of the flat. Although there is no access to a garden there are regular outings to a local park where the children use the large play equipment.

The children who currently attend stay for a maximum of three hours each day and are provided with a snack. They enjoy a drink and sit together on the sofa when they eat their apple. The childminder states that they also have sandwiches and sometimes chips which they love. Although dietary needs and possible allergies are discussed with parents no written information about these is available.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play and rest comfortably as the childminder has considered the use of space in her home which is well organised and the children move between the hall, living room and bedroom freely and confidently. The premises are safe because the childminder has identified and minimised the risks in the home. The way in which they would leave the flat if there was a fire has been explained to the children however the fire blanket is not sited correctly.

The children have access to a range of toys and resources which are clean, in good condition and many are easily accessible.

Children's welfare is protected. The childminder has a current first aid certificate and a first aid kit is easily available. The childminder has attended training on child protection, has a secure understanding of the procedures to follow and understands her responsibilities should she have any concerns about a child's well being.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are happy and content. Their relationship with the childminder is very positive and they are confident when they arrive, coming in taking off their coats and settling to play. The childminder goes with them to choose some toys and sets up a set of skittles in the living room. The children practise rolling the ball and are pleased when some of the skittles are knocked down. They then go into the hall where they play football.

The children have access to a range of toys some of which they can reach for themselves, others the childminder gets down for them. They cook using the play cooker and saucepans, listen to each others heart beat with the stethoscope and look at the pictures on the wooden blocks.

While the children are well looked after there is no written information about their individual specific needs to support the childminder in her care.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and content because the childminder cares for them effectively helped by her sound knowledge of their individual needs. They benefit from the good relationship their mother has with the childminder and observe positive interaction when the adults talk together. The childminder speaks fluent Arabic which is the children's first language and she chats to them using this and English which the children are starting to learn. The children also see both languages written in the selection of books that are available.

Children have regular opportunities to meet people from different backgrounds when they are taken on outings, and the childminder recognises the value of living in a diverse multicultural community.

The children are learning to share and consider the others. They are supported by the childminder who is pleased when they manage to roll the ball and knock down some of the skittles and shows pleasure in their achievements when she claps and says bravo.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The children are happy and confident in the home which is arranged to provide them with space to play safely. The childminder is well organised and although the minded children are only present for three hours a day the routines in place ensure there are regular outings and opportunities to meet other people. The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

The record keeping system is incomplete. The childminder is supported by the local authority which places the children in her care. Information about the children is discussed and recorded at the initial meeting between the support worker, the parents and the childminder. While the childminder has a good knowledge of the children being looked after only a basic checklist is available with the rest of the details retained by the local authority.

No attendance record is kept and medication records are not completed.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable as this was the first inspection since registration.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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):

- obtain signed consents from parents for administering medication and keep a record signed by parents of any medication that is given to children
- keep a daily attendance record including the times that children are present
- obtain a copy of the children's information that is kept by the local authority support worker

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