

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY285287
Inspection date	08 May 2007
Inspector	Ann Webb
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 provides care in a house occupied by her mother and father, in the Wyke area of Bradford. She has been registered since 2004 and currently has two children on roll. The childminder has two children aged four years and 18 months.

All of the ground floor and the upstairs playroom are used for childminding and there is a rear garden for outdoor play. The childminder helps to run the local toddler group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The children learn appropriately about healthy eating through trying a variety of healthy choices during meals and snacks. For example, they have fresh fruit for snacks and sweets are for treats only. At tea time the children enjoy pasta and know that when they are thirsty they can help themselves to drinks of water. By working closely with parents, asking for comments and suggestions and sharing of information, the children's individual dietary needs are successfully identified and met.

Appropriate hand washing routines ensure that all the children develop an understanding of the importance of personal hygiene. They become independent in contributing toward their own hygiene needs, for example, washing their hands after toileting and before and after meals.

There are suitable opportunities for the children to have fresh air and exercise each day. They have opportunities daily to play in the childminders garden with a climbing frame, sit and ride toys and a slide. They also walk to and from school each day, visit wildlife parks and adventure playgrounds.

The children's health and well-being is effectively enhanced through a clear sickness policy and the effective management of children's illnesses. The children are able to rest and to sleep in accordance with their parent's wishes and their individual sleep patterns.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children's safety is maintained effectively by the childminder. All risks to children are significantly reduced because she ensures that all safety features are in place. For example, safety gates prevent children having access to the stairs, socket covers are in place and smoke detectors are fitted to each level of the home. The children are able to contribute successfully toward their own safety through rehearsing emergency evacuations and following the Green Cross Code.

All toys and equipment are well maintained, the childminder checks resources and furniture each day to ensure that they are safe for the children's use. She gives appropriate consideration to the presentation and storage of toys to ensure that children are able to make independent choices.

The childminder has a current first aid certificate, and she has an appropriate understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and shares her child protection policy with all parents. This further promotes the children's safety and well-being.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are interested to learn through appropriately planned play opportunities. Their creative instincts are fostered and developed and they are confident to freely express themselves. For example, they make their own music using a guitar, painting and model making.

Children's efforts are valued by the childminder who displays their work with care. During a craft activity the children are able to select their own materials to select what they will put in their suitcases for a holiday. The childminder links this activity with a theme on holidays and talks with the children about where they are going and how they will travel there.

The childminder records and observes the children's development in their early years, these observations are recorded and presented attractively. They are complemented with photographs and examples of children's art and craft work in individual files which are shared with all parents.

The children enjoy early mathematical experiences. For example, the children line up cars on the floor in order of size. They are placed in rows and their colour identified by the children.

Additionally, the children count familiar items when they travel in the car or when walking to school.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are involved in a reasonable range of activities, which promote their understanding of the diversity of the world in which they live. For example, they have celebrated Chinese New Year and Halloween with food tasting and mask making.

The children access an appropriate range of resources which positively reflect race and gender through books, dressing up, small world figures and jigsaws. However, there are no resources which reflect a positive image of disability. They learn effectively about their local community through frequent visits to the local park, toddler groups and parks.

The children are well behaved. They respond well to the childminder who uses words of approval and praise to promote positive behaviour. They are learning effectively to help each other through everyday activities, such as clearing away their toys.

The children's individual needs are suitably understood by the childminder, she has established professional relationships with parents and ensures that she receives, shares and maintains all information needed to meet all children's individual needs. For example, children's registration sheets enable parents to identify any dietary and health requirements. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure that these are fully met and that parents are able to be involved in their children's care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The environment for the children is appropriately organised and child centred, for example, children's art work is displayed and toys are easily accessible. Consequently the children are happy, settled and very confident in their surroundings.

There are appropriate procedures in place to ensure that adults caring for the children are suitable to do so, for example, background checks are undertaken and children are not left alone with unvetted persons.

Most policies and procedures are written and shared with parents. Most of the required documentation is in place, is easily accessible and stored confidentially. For example, accident and medication records are signed by parents and a record of the children's attendance is completed each day. However, the childminder does not have a system to record complaints.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of all the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to improve her understanding of procedures to follow when dealing with child protection, seek written parental permission for medical treatment and to accurately record children's attendance. The childminder has an appropriate understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and discusses her child protection policy with parents. Written permission for medical treatment is sought from all

parents and records of the children's attendance show an accurate account of when they are present. These improvements successfully contribute toward the safety and well-being of the children.

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 resources which reflect a positive image of disability
- ensure that there is a system to record complaints.

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