



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY285401
Inspection date	06 May 2005
Inspector	Carol Brown

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since 2004. She lives with her husband and two sons aged 2 and 4 years old. They live in a three bedroom terraced property in Enfield. The childminder's home is situated in a residential area close to Enfield Town, British rail station and parks. Minded children have access to the ground floor through lounge/dining area, kitchen, first floor bathroom/toilet, two bedrooms and a garden. .

The childminder is registered to care for two children at any one time and is currently minding two children. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding

Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a varied range of activities, which contribute to their good health. Daily outdoor activities help children to develop physical abilities, for example they play football, dig in sand and dirt and use sit and ride toys. Children are becoming aware of their own physical needs and know when they need a drink, a rest or a snack. The childminder is developing her knowledge in relation to Birth to 3 matters by helping younger children to develop physical and self help skills.

Children benefit from a healthy, balanced diet. They have access to drinks at all times. Parents are consulted about their children's dietary requirements and the children are offered healthy choices.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean home where they learn the importance of good hygiene and personal care. Daily routines help children to learn about the importance of hand washing, how germs are spread, regular exercise and rest periods. The childminder is supporting children's understanding of how accidents happen and how to care for someone who has injured themselves. Accidents are appropriately recorded and a copy of the record is given to parents.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a spacious home where risks are identified and minimised for example safety gates are in place to prevent unauthorised access to areas of the home. Children are able to move around safely and independently. The childminder gives priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves and others safe.

The children have access to a wide range of good quality toys and equipment, which meet safety standards. The childminder supervises the children's choice of toys to ensure that they are safe and appropriate for their age and stage of development. Children are able to have an undisturbed rest in a bedroom on the first floor. The childminder is vigilant about sleeping children's safety and monitors them by means of a baby monitor and regular visual checks.

Children are well protected. The childminder has a good understanding of the physical and emotional signs, which could be indicative of child protection issues in line with the Area Child Protection Committee procedures and is developing her knowledge through on going training.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle well at the childminder's home. They relate well to each other and have the opportunity to socialise with other children through regular attendance at local drop in groups and nursery class. The children are becoming competent learners as they are able to make choices, explore and investigate, problem solve and ask questions. All children spend their time purposefully and are actively engaged and interested in the activities provided. The childminder is developing children's concepts and is encouraging them to have respect for living creatures. Younger children's learning is supported through music, sensory experiences and the childminders ability to support their pre-verbal skills by responding to their babbling and gestures. Children's vocabulary and communication skills are being developed as the childminder is teaching them Spanish in preparation for their summer holiday. The childminder is using the Birth to three matters framework to adapt activities such as singing and mark making to promote younger children's learning.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are provided with a meaningful range of resources and activities, which helps them to develop their knowledge and understanding of the wider community. They are respected and valued as individuals. Children's behaviour is generally good this is as a result of the childminder developing consistent methods for managing behaviour, which takes into account the age, level of understanding and maturity of individual children. Children play well together, show concern for each other and living creatures. The children are developing skills in communicating their feelings and are able to talk about what makes them happy and sad. Children's needs are well met and their daily routines are shared with parents. The childminder fosters children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children feel secure within the well organised environment. They are confident to make demands on the childminder in the knowledge that their requests will be appropriately met. Parents are given daily verbal reports on their children's progress. Policies and procedures are used effectively, however the childminder does not keep written progress development records. Children's care and development is supported through the childminders commitment to on going training. Comprehensive systems are in place to keep children safe and enable them to make progress.

Improvements since the last inspection

This is the childminders first inspection

Complaints since the last inspection

No complaints to report

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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 written progress development records

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk