



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY288808
Inspection date	08 June 2005
Inspector	Susan Linda Capon

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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives with her husband and nineteen month old child in a house situated in the London Borough of Bromley. The whole of the ground floor and the family bathroom and one bedroom on the first floor are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for three children at any one time and is currently minding two children both on a part-time basis.

The family has no pets. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding

Association. She regularly use a local parent and toddler group and a music group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children enjoy a wide range of physical outdoor activities on a regular basis which contributes to their good health. They have access to a good range of suitable equipment for climbing, crawling, jumping and sliding suitable for the individual needs of the children attending. The childminder ensures the babies are fully involved and can play alongside the older children safely e.g. she puts the child onto the slide while the toddler climbs the slide on his own. The children walk to the local park, woods and library regularly. The toddlers are beginning to recognise how their body works and know when they need a drink or their nappy changing. They are beginning to understand the importance of keeping themselves safe and healthy by wearing a sun hat and sun cream when playing in the sunshine.

The children are kept healthy and free from cross-contamination through the good hygiene practices used by the childminder e.g. good hand-washing routines, clean work surfaces and safe food preparation. She explains the importance of good hygiene routines to the young children encouraging them to learn these themselves.

The children are developing an understanding of healthy eating as the childminder talks about the value of eating fresh fruit and vegetable on a daily basis. All the meals provided are home-made from fresh ingredients. They are healthy, nutritious and varied to meet the individual needs of all the children attending and take into account the parent's wishes. The childminder is aware of individual likes and dislikes incorporating these into the weekly menu's. All the children eat together with the babies high chair pushed close to the table to ensure they are fully included and providing opportunities for the children to develop their social skills and table manners.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children are able to move around freely and explore their environment safely as the childminder has made all areas of her home and garden safe and secure although the fire blanket is not fully secured in her kitchen. They are beginning to develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe both inside and outside the home e.g. the toddler dries the slide before using it and is aware of the importance of holding onto the buggy when walking near the road. The childminder encourages the children to develop their independence skills giving them sufficient time to practice them e.g. the toddler was reminded not to rush when going down the stairs.

The children are able to make their own choices and selections from the good range of toys and equipment made readily available to them. Young babies have a range of

suitable toys placed close to them enabling them to make their own choices. The childminder ensures all her toys, equipment and household furnishings are clean, safe and suitable for the children. She has a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues ensuring the children are always protected and cared for in a safe environment. The childminder has NCMA public liability insurance.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children are kept fully stimulated and interested through the provision of a good range of activities and equipment readily accessible to them. They enthusiastically make their own selection and choices and play imaginatively with the resources creating their own games and ideas. The childminder skilfully incorporates learning into the daily activities helping the children to develop their language and number skills. The children are beginning to learn about the world about them e.g. the toddler is aware the plants need water to grow properly. Additional learning opportunities are made available through outings to a local music group, parent and toddler group and farms. These are enjoyed by all the children and help to develop their social development and self-esteem. She provides excellent care for children under three years old.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children settle quickly on leaving their parents and are happy in their surroundings and feel part of the family. All the children are valued, respected and treated as individuals. They are beginning to learn about other cultures and people with disabilities through the good range of resources readily available. The childminder is very aware of the individual needs of the children and meets these at all times e.g. provided the lunch to suit the needs of the baby and toddler. She is careful to give all the children equal time and attention whilst taking into account their individual needs and developmental stage. The children are developing their knowledge of the local community through the range of additional activities to parks, farms and social groups.

The children play together well and are beginning to learn to share their toys and co-operate with one another. A very calm, friendly and stimulating environment is provided by the childminder making the children feel comfortable and secure. The older children are beginning to understand how to manage their feelings and behave well. The childminder supports their development through regular praise and encouragement.

The childminder and parent's share information about the child to ensure they are both kept updated about the child's development and progress. A comprehensive daily written diary provides the parents with an excellent reference reflecting the child's day spent with the childminder. The childminder does not have written consent to seek emergency treatment or to take the children on outings in her vehicle.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children are safe and receive good quality care in this well organised environment. The childminder is keen to continue to develop her childcare knowledge and has completed a variety of suitable courses enabling her to provide better quality care for the children. She has an organised port folio including well written policies and procedures. This is made readily available to parents providing them with detailed information about the provision and how it is managed. The detailed children's records are regularly shared with the parent's. All the documents and records are detailed, well organised and suitably filed to maintain confidentiality. The children's individual needs are well met.

Improvements since the last inspection

N/A

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints about this provision.

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.

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):

- ensure the fire blanket is secured in the kitchen.
- request the parents written permission to seek emergency treatment for their child, to transport their child in the childminder's vehicle and to take the child on outings.

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:

