



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY290282
Inspection date	26 April 2006
Inspector	Vivienne Rose

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 daughter aged 5 years. They live in a two bedroom house within walking distance of Mare street in the London Borough of Hackney.

The main area used for childminding is the front room. There is access to a secure outdoor area for play. The childminder is registered to care for four children at any one time and is currently minding three children on a part-time basis.

The childminder walks to local parent and toddler groups and takes the children to the local park and library.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a range of activities which contribute to their good health for example; they attend local playgroups and the park on regular occasions. Children make their needs known when they ask for a drink. The childminder shows care and consideration to their individual dietary needs and is happy to provide alternatives from a variety of healthy options to meet the individual needs of children. The childminder requests information about the children's medical and dietary needs to ensure the good health of their health needs are met.

The children's welfare is generally well protected because all accidents are recorded and the childminder makes sure that she requests information for the children's medical needs. Children who are infectious do not attend, this prevents the spread of infection. However, not all of the children's details are suitably maintained, this coupled with the lack of permission for emergency treatment means that children's health is not fully protected should an emergency occur. The childminder takes account of the children's routines for sleep and rest which ensures their physical well-being.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm safe family home where risks are minimised. The effective use of stair gates and high locks means that children are able to move around safely and freely. However, some areas of safety in the kitchen are yet to be addressed to ensure that the children are fully protected. There are satisfactory procedures in place for the safe arrival and departure of children. The children play with suitable toys which are safely maintained by the childminder who is aware of the need to maintain them regularly. Children have access to play equipment and resources which are safe and suitable. The childminder's awareness regarding age appropriate equipment for younger children and the size of toys used, helps to keep them safe. Children are aware of safety rules and the childminder reminds them, for example, to sit on the chair safely in case they should fall.

The children are kept safe on outings as the childminder is aware of teaching them rules about safety and crossing the roads with care. However, as yet there is no written parental permission to take children on outings. Children are well protected as the childminder has a sound understanding of the procedures to follow should she have concerns about the welfare of a child in her care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle well at the childminder's house and they are happy and content. Children become independent as they select from a variety of resources. They take part in a variety of activities outside the home including visits and outings to the park and local play centres. This stimulates them and supports their social skills. The childminder plans her week to ensure that children

have the opportunity to sample different activities and resources, for example, sensory play, singing, storytelling and painting. Children benefit from the positive interaction with the childminder. She spends time with them encouraging their play and recognising their needs and their individual development. The childminder uses the Birth to three framework well to help her to provide activities appropriate to the needs of the younger children. For example, providing visual displays to attract their attention and interest and wheeled toys to aid their physical development and use of space.

Simple records have been introduced in a diary format to ensure that the children's developmental progress can be recorded and their needs met. Children develop a sense of well-being within the environment which is relaxed and happy.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The provider provides a meaningful range of activities which promote the children's awareness of the wider world. For example, role play, puzzles and books. Children are valued and respected as individuals and they play well together. They learn to accept differences as there are a good range of resources which reflect diversity including disability. Care is taken to obtain information about the children's likes and dislikes. Daily discussions help to make sure that parents are kept well informed of routines such as how long the children have slept and what they have eaten. Children are polite and play well together. The childminder relates well to the children and responds to their individual needs, as a result they are relaxed. They learn to share and to take turns and respond well to the childminder's gentle reminders and praise. Children communicate their needs well and help themselves to resources which helps them to develop their independence.

The practice of a settling in process promotes children's welfare and security and parental involvement. The ongoing informal discussions with parents ensure continuity of care for the children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children feel at home and at ease in the well organised environment. This means that children are confident to move around and to access toys and resources independently. Children are kept safe, as the childminder is very aware of her responsibility to ensure that children are not left alone with someone who is not suitably vetted.

The childminder is aware of how many children she is registered to care for and ensures that she works within the conditions of her registration at all times. Although most of the required documentation is in place, some of it lacks detail. The daily record of attendance has not been well maintained and not all of the registration details for all the children attending were available. The lack of comprehensive information on all the children means that should an emergency arise their welfare is not fully protected. Written parental permission for outings and emergency

treatment is also not in place. The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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):

- ensure that the required written details of all minded children are maintained in the childminding home to include; a daily record of arrival and departure times; written parental permission to take children on outings; for emergency treatment.

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