



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY291004
Inspection date	27 October 2005
Inspector	Duncan Gill

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 lives with her husband and their two children aged 3 and 5 years. The family home is situated on the outskirts of Leeds. She is registered to care for four children and currently has three children on roll aged from 1 to 11.

Children have access to the lounge, dining kitchen, first floor bathroom and rear garden. There are shops, schools and a park within walking distance. The childminder collects children from the local school and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn good routines of personal hygiene and the importance of healthy practices through discussions with the childminder and through practicing effective daily routines, such as hand washing before meals and after toileting. They are well protected from the spread of infection. The childminder fully implements an effective policy when children are ill and she follows detailed hygiene procedures, for example when nappy changing. Effective arrangements are in place to care for children in the event of an accident. The childminder has attended first aid training and has good procedures in place to ensure children are well looked after in case of an emergency. Children's individual needs are well met with regards to sleep and they have many opportunities to develop their physical control. They enjoy regular walks, outings and access to outside play in the childminder's garden.

Children are well nourished. They are offered a balanced and healthy diet including pasta, fruit, meat and vegetables. Children's individual dietary needs are well met through effective partnership with parents to discuss any allergies or special dietary requirements. Children are offered healthy snacks each day and are regularly encouraged to have drinks, which are freely accessible to them.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a warm, welcoming environment, which is child orientated and has good evidence of their play and activity. Toys and activities are attractively set out for children and the rooms are well organised so they can move freely and with confidence. Children can independently access a good range of well maintained toys and equipment, which are stored at their height. For example, role play, imaginative play, books, arts and crafts. They are very interested in the toys available and these provide good challenge for them.

Children are cared for in a very safe environment which has good measures in place to protect them. For example socket covers, smoke detectors, safety gates, cupboard locks and a fully secure outdoor play area. They develop a good understanding of keeping themselves safe, regularly practicing evacuation procedures, learning about road safety and they begin to understand the reasons behind safe practices, through good explanations from the childminder. They are kept very safe on outings as the childminder follows effective procedures to keep them free from harm.

Children are well protected from abuse as the childminder has a sound understanding of child protection. She is aware of her responsibilities towards the children in her care and has a secure understanding of the procedure to follow with any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are given good opportunities to be independent and their opinion is highly valued. They move around freely accessing drinks, equipment and choosing activities which interest them. They are happy, settled and build warm relationships with each other. Children are fully involved in a wide range of activities, which develops their imagination, language, creativity and physical development. They enjoy role play, construction, stories, outings, arts and crafts. Children are happy, settled and play well with other children. Children are very secure and confident in the childminder's home. They are very keen to communicate with the childminder and receive lots of praise to help them develop their self esteem. The childminder is very interested in the children, asking questions to make them think and helping them to successfully acquire new skills and knowledge.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are highly valued as individuals and are treated fairly and equally, regardless of gender, culture or ability. They have suitable opportunities to learn about the wider world, through talks with the childminder, trips to local places of interest and access to a satisfactory range of resources to promote equality of opportunity. Children with special educational needs are welcome at the setting and the childminder has good arrangements in place to ensure all children are included, regardless of ability.

Children behave very well. They develop a sound understanding of the consequences of their actions from clear and consistent boundaries set by the childminder and explanations of the reasons behind behaviour boundaries. They benefit from developmentally appropriate methods used to manage inappropriate behaviour, including explanation, distraction and time out.

Children benefit from strong and trusting relationships between parents and the childminder. Close partnership with parents ensures all children's individual needs are effectively met and detailed registration forms and talks ensure the childminder has all the information necessary to care effectively for the children. Parents are kept well informed of their child's development and activity through daily chats and children's profiles. They are given detailed information about the setting and receive written information including policies on behaviour, illness, child protection and emergency procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from well organised rooms and resources which give them good opportunities for free choice and to develop their independence. They move around

freely accessing resources and activities and the childminder organises her time well to give children effective support and encouragement to help them feel secure and confident. Daily routines are effectively organised to meet children's individual needs with regards to sleeping and eating. The childminder enhances the care of the children by looking for training opportunities such as first aid and child protection to help keep children safe and healthy.

The childminder fully implements effective policies and procedures that are individual to that setting and have a positive impact on the children, for example behaviour, child protection and illness. All the required documentation is in place, which contributes to the efficient and safe management of the childminding service provided. Overall the needs of all children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report. 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 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):

- develop opportunities for children to learn about the wider world and appreciate and value each others similarities and differences
- further develop knowledge and understanding of the needs of children under 3, for example through the use of the Birth to three matters framework.

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