



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY292923
Inspection date	13 April 2005
Inspector	Claudia Padfield

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 has been registered since 2004. She lives with her two school age children. They live in a house in the River Area of Maidenhead within walking distance of local shops, schools and parks. The whole of the ground floor area is used for childminding.

There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The family have a cat and dog.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn good personal care during the daily routines; the childminder acts as a good role model. and enables children know how to wipe noses and throw the tissue in the bin; or wash hands before eating. These good procedures ensure high levels of hygiene are in place.

Children benefit from a healthy diet with free access to their own drinking cups; they make choices regarding the snacks and meals, which are nutritious and well presented. The childminder ensures these comply with all special dietary requirements and parents wishes. Children eat meals and snacks in a sociable environment at a leisurely pace giving children time to feed themselves and enjoy good social interactions.

Children enjoy regular access to outdoor play at home or within the local community. They have good opportunities to develop large physical skills on the climbing frame and trampoline. Children have regular rest tailored to their personal needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder considers the children's well being by ensuring the environment is safe, which allows freedom of movement during play. Children crawl and walk safely playing with toys of their choice, engaging each other in playful interaction.

The childminder completes risk assessments during the day to ensure the children's safety is paramount. During the inspection, the pipes attached to the wall became loose. The childminder showed the children present how to move safely in and out of the conservatory and supervised them at all times. She agreed to make these safe and inaccessible to the children.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities; and the childminder rotates these to provide suitable challenges for all. Children understand expectations such as tidying up an activity before choosing another in order to keep the floor space safe. All children enjoy the opportunity to put toys back into the box "crash" before selecting a fresh toy. Children enjoy the positive praise from the childminder and demonstrate good levels of self esteem.

The childminder has regular communications with parents which develops strong partnerships between all those involved in keeping the children safe. The childminder is aware of systems and procedures to follow should a concern arise, these are documented in the information shared with parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children have warm relationships with the childminder, they engage with her during play and return when comfort and support are required. She talks to the children throughout her activities using thought provoking questioning to widen their learning experience. Children are given time to complete any chosen task increasing their self confidence and life skills. The childminder will enhance and continue to develop the children's learning experience through use of Birth to three matters.

Children play for sustained periods of time alongside each other, happily engaged in their own activity.

Children enjoy each other's companionship and warmly greet each other upon arrival. During outdoor play children have good opportunities to gain new skills i.e. bouncing on the trampoline and using the climbing frame safely. The childminder ensures children have a wide range of activities to promote all areas of learning. She consider each child's stage of development to plan a variety of stimulating activities to enhance the children's learning.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are aware of their peers and are learning to consider the consequences of their actions for example, sharing their toys and playing alongside each other. The childminder supports and encourages them in this learning. Parents share information upon arrival and information regarding routine changes like an early morning or disturbed night. The childminder uses this information to ensure consistent routines are followed. Children have access to good range of resources that reflect positive images such as disability, race and culture.

Children behave well in response to good role modelling from the childminder. She supports the children to take turns and consider the other children when playing by making room or completing a task together. Children make choices about activities they complete and the childminder plans to provide a suitable level of challenge and success.

Parents wishes are valued and respected by the childminder who spends time sharing experiences and routines in order to be consistent in care patterns.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder ensures all the required documentation is in place to support the care of the children. She ensures regular reviews keep information up to date and good lines of communication maintain consistent approaches to the care of the children.

All the required documentation to ensure children's health and safety is in place and

regularly reviewed. The childminder ensures the children have access to a wide range of developmentally suitable toys and equipment, with good opportunities for children to play outside and enjoy the fresh air.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable first inspection since registration.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are 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):

- ensure pipes are safely secured to wall and insulated to protect children from the heat.
- develop the use of birth to three matters to enhance the children's learning in all areas.

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