



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY293118
Inspection date	05 July 2005
Inspector	Sharon, Amelia Robson

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 husband and two children aged six and eight years. They live in a link villa in Wallsend, North Tyneside, which is close to local amenities and public transport links. The whole of the ground floor and upstairs bathroom are used for childminding purposes. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently caring for two children on a part-time basis. The childminder is a qualified nursery nurse.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health and well being is promoted through good daily routines that help them begin to understand about being healthy. Children are made aware of good hygiene practice through the positive role model the childminder provides and her explanations of what she is doing, for example washing hands before preparing food.

Children enjoy a healthy, nutritious diet that is varied and well balanced and drinks are available throughout the day. There is good communication with parents to ensure children are provided with a healthy and nutritious diet and takes account of children's individual dietary needs and parental wishes. The childminder keeps a daily diary which keeps parents informed of what children have eaten throughout the day.

Children enjoy, explore and develop physical control in stimulating indoor and outdoor experiences. Daily visits to local parks, toddler groups and soft play improve children's physical skills. The childminders good understanding of developmental stages of the individual children she is caring for, means that children are confident to try new skills, ask for help and set their own limits.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Risks of accidental injury to children are minimised because the childminder is vigilant and uses very effective risk assessments to reduce potential hazards both indoors and outdoors. Children are able to move around safely, freely and independently. The childminder gives high priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe.

Children independently select activities from an excellent range of good quality and stimulating toys and equipment, which meet safety standards. The children benefit from the freedom of choice and the childminder monitors and supervises children's play materials to ensure they are safe and appropriate to children's age and stage of development.

Children are very well protected by the childminder, who has an excellent understanding of child protection procedures and gives priority to children's welfare. The childminder has completed a child protection course and has written procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the childminders, they are very confident and extremely happy. They achieve well because the childminder is highly skilled and uses her

knowledge of the children's developmental stages, to provide high quality care and learning experiences for the children she is caring for. Close and caring relationships increase children's sense of trust and help them develop a strong sense of self. Early communication skills are extremely well supported through high quality adult and child interactions. Children have many opportunities to develop social skills through regular outings to toddler groups, where there are opportunities to socialise and play alongside children of different ages and stages of development. The childminder keeps a daily diary to keep parents informed of children's activities throughout the day.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are provided with a good range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity and an understanding of others. Children learn about their local community through planned visits to places of interest, such as the local pond, park, soft play and toddler groups.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder meets the children's individual needs, as they follow their normal daily routine as discussed with parents. She supports children in sharing, taking turns and helping one another. She has realistic expectations and sets consistent boundaries for all children, ensuring they are appropriate to children's ages and stages of development.

A good partnership with parents contributes to children's well being in the childminders home. Parents views about their children's needs and interests are actively sought before the child's placement begins, and on a regular basis. Daily diaries and verbal information shared with parents ensures that they are kept well informed about how their child is developing and progressing.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The premises are well organised, indoor and outdoor space is laid out to maximise play opportunities for children, they are confident and settled in their surroundings and have confidence to initiate and extend learning and play.

There are good opportunities for children to have free play, rest and meals.

The childminder is very skilled and knowledgeable and has a good understanding of the National Standards. She regularly attends relevant training and has a nursery nurse qualification.

The childminder has some written policies and procedures, however would they would be enhanced having additional policies that she can share with parents. The provision meets the needs of all the children attending.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

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 that written information is enhanced by appropriate policies and procedures.

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