



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY295466
Inspection date	18 April 2005
Inspector	Malini Parmar

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 has been registered since 2004. She child minds from her two bedroom flat in London. She shares her home with her two adult children and baby.

Children have access to the lounge, kitchen for eating meals and main bedroom for sleeps. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of two children at any one time and she is currently minding two one child on a full time basis and the other after school. The childminder is able to walk to school to take and collect children and takes children to use the local amenities and playgroups on a regular basis.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The provision is satisfactory. Children learn about healthy hygiene practice through the daily routine. They are, for example encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times. Children benefit from the positive steps taken to prevent the spread of infection. The premises and equipment are clean, children have their own bedding and individual changing mats are used for each child. However, children's health may be compromised in an emergency because the childminder has yet to obtain first aid training suitable for paediatric care.

Children clearly enjoy the variety of freshly prepared meals and the satisfactory range of snacks. These comply with all special dietary requirements and parental wishes. Younger children are encouraged to ask for drinks which are then readily supplied. Older children can access them independently.

Children are able to rest, eat and sleep according to their individual needs to promote their well being. They have lots of space to develop confidence in their movements. For example, they respond with delight as they explore the sound of musical instruments and use the whole of their bodies to match their movements and express themselves accordingly, while they dance. They develop control as they try out new skills such as kicking a cylindrical toy containing instruments. They receive regular opportunities for fresh air and more vigorous play through trips to local amenities and play groups.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The provision is satisfactory. Children are settled and secure in a welcoming and well organised environment. Children move freely and comfortably and most of the fundamental safety measures to minimise potential risks, are in place. Children's safety is not yet fully promoted because the childminder has not completed a full risk assessment on potential hazards; such as, how to ensure children do not touch potentially hot pipes and radiators. Children are safely escorted on trips and outings, for example, they are strapped into their buggies. The childminder is yet to obtain written consent to take children on trips.

Children benefit from the clear, child centred layout of resources. The low level shelves and seating make it easy for children to, independently select from a sound range of safe and developmentally appropriate toys and resources. Children's welfare is mostly promoted and safeguarded because the childminder has most of the required procedures and documentation in place to ensure this, such as public liability insurance. However children's welfare may be delayed as the childminder does not yet have a fully secure knowledge of issues surrounding child protection.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The provision is good. Children are confident and have a strong bond with the childminder, which increases their sense of well-being. They form positive relationships with each other as they share resources and their experiences, for example, discovering coloured lights on a toy. They begin to socialise with other children through regular attendance at local toddler groups. They experiment with paint, dough, sand and water at these facilities. They are learning to become skilful communicators as they listen and respond with laughter to the varying sounds made by the many musical instruments they eagerly explore. Children are independent and freely select from, for example, a range of books and programmable toys. They are learning to make connections as they distinguish between different toys and choose their favourite things to play with. They become absorbed in books and are able to sustain attention for appropriate periods of time to discover the meaning of words and sounds and confidently repeat them. They benefit from being valued and listened to and receive good levels of involvement in their play to enable them to investigate how things work. For example, children delight as they are clearly shown, and then proceed to successfully experiment with a wind up mechanism to make the puppet appear.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The provision is satisfactory. Children have access to a satisfactory range of resources that promote a positive view of the wider world and increase their awareness of diversity to develop their understanding of others. Children learn about the local world through regular trips in to the community, they access the library, parks and play resources. This fosters a balanced view of the world. Children behave well, they are valued and develop sound levels of self-esteem, assurance and confidence by being praised and acknowledged within a close secure relationship. However, there is less emphasis on providing consistent explanations for unwanted behaviour so children can develop a firm understanding of behaviour boundaries. The childminder uses her time efficiently to ensure that all minded children receive some dedicated time solely with her in order to strengthen their emotional safety, trust and positive self image.

Children benefit from the childminder's close links with parents to ensure that pertinent information is exchanged daily. Parents are encouraged to share all necessary information and requirements upon entry and thereafter are kept verbally informed of their child's day.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The provision is satisfactory. Children are confident and settled in a well organised

environment. They freely select their own resources and form positive and secure relationships with the childminder. They benefit from clear flexible routines and the childminder's commitment to meeting their individual needs. The childminder has all necessary checks in place for herself and members of her family and majority of the necessary records to ensure appropriate care for the children attending. However, the childminder has not yet been able to attend suitable training in first aid, due to unavoidable circumstances. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

This is the childminder's first inspection since her registration in 2004.

Complaints since the last inspection

Not Applicable

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):

- provide evidence of obtaining training in first aid suitable for paediatric care and evidence of completing the initial childminding practice course.
- conduct a safety risk assessment within the home and make all potential hazards inaccessible to children.
- obtain written parental permission to take children 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: www.ofsted.gov.uk