

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY296225
Inspection date	06 August 2008
Inspector	Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi
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 husband and three children, aged 6, 11 and 14 years old. They live in a four bedroom house in a residential area of Forest Hill. The downstairs of the house is used for childminding. A garden is available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for five children under eight years old, and there is currently one child on roll. There were no children present during the inspection.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how children's good health is promoted. She has systems in place to keep relevant records about children's health needs, accidents and any medicine they need to be given. She describes how children learn about simple good hygiene practices through daily routines such as washing their hands after playing in the garden or before they eat. Through discussion, the childminder demonstrates an understanding of healthy eating. She ensures children have regular meals and snacks, and explains that children have

access to their own water bottle throughout the day. The childminder makes sure that children have plenty of opportunity to take part in physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle. She explains that they enjoy regular outings to local parks and playing outside in the garden. The childminder has attended previous first aid training to ensure she can respond appropriately to minor accidents and injuries, but she has not made sure that her certificate is kept up-to-date as required.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The childminder cares for children in a warm, welcoming family home, with facilities to meet their needs. She takes action to ensure that risks in and outside her home have been minimised, so that children can play safely. She explains that she uses safety gates to restrict access to some areas of the house, such as the stairs, and has catches on kitchen cupboards so that children cannot access hazardous cleaning materials or sharp knives. She makes sure that play resources are suitable for children's age and stage of development and are kept clean and in good condition. Through discussion, the childminder shows an understanding of child protection issues and is aware of her responsibilities towards the children in her care. She is familiar with what to do if she is worried about a child, which helps safeguard their welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The childminder ensures that children take part in a wide variety of activities and experiences that are suitable for their age and needs. She describes the familiar daily routine for going out, eating and sleeping that helps children feel secure. She explains that children benefit from regular outings to local playgroups to socialise with other children, to the park to run around, or to visit a friend. The childminder talks about the activities that children enjoy at her home, where they can freely access a good range of play materials and resources. She plans activities that children especially enjoy, such as play dough, drawing, playing with small world toys, such as cars, or riding in the garden on their favourite tricycle. The childminder describes how she helps children learn through everyday routines and play experiences, and says that she includes children as part of her family. She recognises children's achievements and fosters their self-esteem, for instance, by displaying their pictures on the wall.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder describes how she welcomes all children, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and values them as individuals. She explains that she finds out about children's needs before they start, and makes sure she plans the care she provides to ensure she meets them. The childminder shows a sound knowledge of how to manage children's behaviour according to their age and understanding, and describes how she encourages mutual respect, consideration and good manners. Through discussion and the documentation available, the childminder demonstrates an understanding of the importance of developing good working relationships with parents and keeping them well informed. Clear written agreements are in place with parents and some additional policies and procedures are available for their information. However, the childminder does not yet have a system in place to keep a log of complaints.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has attended relevant childminding training, although not all her certificates are currently up-to-date. She organises her home around the needs of the children and offers a welcoming environment where children's work is displayed on the walls, there is space to play, and play materials and resources are readily accessible. All the required records that promote the health, safety and well-being of minded children are in place, as well as additional policies and information. Overall, evidence suggests that the childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable: this is the first inspection since registration.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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.

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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):

- make sure a valid first aid certificate is maintained
- establish a system for keeping a record of complaints

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