



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY296568
Inspection date	05 May 2005
Inspector	Tina Garner

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 registered in 2004. She lives with her family in Clifton on the outskirts of Nottingham. Minded children have access to the whole of the ground floor with toileting and sleeping facilities provided within these areas. There is a fully enclosed rear garden which is available for outdoor play. The family have no pets.

The childminder is registered to care for five children at any one time and currently cares for two children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean home. Their good health is well promoted through the use of effective hygiene practices and daily routines, these help to prevent the spread of infection and promote children's understanding of good personal hygiene well. A suitable range of meals and drinks are provided these are planned in accordance to parental wishes and children's dietary needs and include some healthy options such as fresh fruit daily.

The childminder has devised a well written sick child policy which gives clear advice to parents on when children should not attend, however she has not obtained all necessary written consents to ensure she is able to meet the individual needs of children in an emergency or when administering medication.

Children enjoy a satisfactory range of activities and experiences to encourage their physical development. They enjoy regular trips to the park and play in the well equipped rear garden.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised due to the high priority placed by the childminder on maintaining a safe environment and through the good supervision of the children both within the home and during outings. Children learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves and other safe through the childminders skilful explanations of safe practices, such as why children should not throw things.

Children use a sufficient range of safe, good quality, developmentally appropriate resources. These are mainly suitably organised to enable children some access to activities of their own choosing.

The childminder has all the required procedures and documentation in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded with regard to child protection.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled and confident within the environment. They benefit from routines which are consistent with their experiences at home and are developing positive relationships both with the childminder and one another. Younger children are developing good communication skills through the positive interactions of the childminder as she looks at books, sings and talks through activities with the children.

Children become independent as they choose between the variety of toys, books and

activities which appeal to all. A good range of messy and tactile activities are provided which contribute to children's creativity, such as dough, drawing and painting. Children also enjoy a good range of experiences away from the home such as attending the local parent and toddler group.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's individual needs are appropriately met. The childminder collates all relevant information which ensures that suitable activities and meals are provided in accordance with the differing needs of the children who attend.

Children have equal access to a variety of toys, however there are fewer opportunities, to learn about diversity, each other and the world around them through insufficient available resources and lack of planned activities.

The childminder handles children's behaviour consistently in line with their age and stage of development. She talks sensitively to children to ensure they understand boundaries, which helps them to learn acceptable ways of behaving and understand right from wrong.

A good partnership with parents is formed, this contributes to children's general well-being. Parents' views about their children's needs and interests are actively sought and followed well in practice. All relevant information is verbally exchanged on a daily basis, this keeps parents well informed regarding the care and activities of their own children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The premises are well organised to allow children freedom of movement and access to resources. Indoor and outdoor space is well laid out to maximise space and play opportunities for children.

Documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well being is generally appropriately maintained and stored securely. A well written prospectus has been devised; this offers parent's useful advice regarding the childminder's practices and procedures.

The childminder ensures the needs of all children are met. She is committed to continuous improvement and development, and regularly attends meetings for childminders and seeks all relevant advice from the Early Years Partnership advisor.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- develop play materials and activities which reflect diversity and help children learn to appreciate and value each others similarities and differences
- further promote the good health of children by seeking written parental permission prior to administering medication and for the seeking of any necessary medical advice or treatment in the future.

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