



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY298675
Inspection date	23 November 2005
Inspector	Carol Ann Dixon

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives with her husband and their adult daughter. The family live in a three bedroom town house in a residential area of Oldham. They have a pet dog.

The childminder is registered to provide care for a maximum of three children and is currently minding two children. The rooms used for childminding include the lounge, kitchen/dining room, upstairs bathroom and rear garden.

The childminder takes minded children to local shops, library, park and various social

outings.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy coming to the setting because the childminder provides for their individual needs as they receive individual attention which contributes to their emotional well being. They participate in a wide range of activities which contribute to their good health. They are learning to develop control of their bodies through both indoor and outdoor play where they take part in physical activities including trips to the park and swimming baths. The childminder ensures children have fresh air each day as she takes them for a walk.

Children enjoy a well balanced diet and are gradually introduced to a variety of healthy meals and snacks which include fresh fruit, vegetables and regular drinks. The childminder takes into account the wishes of parents in providing nutritious meals and snacks that appeal to children and meet their dietary needs. Provision of nutritious meals and snacks helps promote children's health and helps them to develop an understanding of good eating habits.

The children are cared for in a warm clean home where they learn the importance of healthy lifestyles and personal care. The childminder demonstrates good hygiene awareness and her effective practise helps to reduce the risk of cross contamination.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are protected from harm both in the home and outside, for example, the childminder ensures the use of age appropriate car safety seats and harnesses when taking children on outings. They are cared for in a generally safe environment because the childminder has identified and minimised risks in the home. They have use of appropriate furniture and equipment suitable for their individual needs such as highchairs and a travel cot for sleeping.

Children benefit from close adult supervision and they independently select activities from a range of toys and equipment which meet safety standards. Children are protected from harm by the childminder who has a good knowledge of child protection procedures and ensures that children's welfare is safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled and confident in the childminder's home. They relate well to the

childminder and benefit from close relationships with her and her family. Children enjoy their time at the childminder's because she plans and provides a range of activities and outings that they are interested in and that are well matched to their individual needs.

The childminder plays an active role in supporting and facilitating the children's play and development. Children benefit from the excellent play and learning opportunities offered to them by the childminder, for example, playing with everyday objects which children enjoy, exploring, playing games, sharing books together and going on nature walks and social outings.

The children relish their time with the childminder who gives them praise and encouragement which results in children developing good self-esteem, confidence and increases their sense of belonging.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are beginning to learn about the local and wider community as they are taken on outings to local community facilities. With the exception of books, the childminder has a limited number of resources that provide children with positive images and promote equality of opportunity.

Parent's views are sought and the childminder works closely with them to provide a service that matches their expectations. There is good sharing of information with parents about their child. Children are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder uses age appropriate strategies to deal with negative behaviour. Children's self-esteem is raised by good use of praise and encouragement by the childminder.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. The childminder works closely with parents to provide a service that meets the children's needs. The generally effective organisation of the environment allows children to make some choices about their activities. Care is provided for children in required ratios which ensures the children are kept safe and make adequate progress with appropriate support. The childminder follows procedures and practise to effectively promote the welfare, care and learning of children. Parents are fully informed about how children spend their day.

The childminder's knowledge of the required documentation and the correct procedures to follow is sometimes inconsistent. As a result, the required record of children's attendances has not been maintained and some aspects of record keeping and documentation are insufficient.

Improvements since the last inspection

This is the first inspection since registration.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- ensure that written parental permission is obtained to seek emergency medical treatment
- ensure that the following required records are in place: a daily record of attendance, a record of accidents and a record of any medicine administered and parents' consent.

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