



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY300408
Inspection date	13 October 2005
Inspector	Carol Brown

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 has been registered since May 2005. She lives with her husband and three children aged two years, three and a half years and one adult daughter. They live in a three bedroom terraced property in the Dagenham area of the London borough of Barking and Dagenham. Minded children have access to the ground floor sitting room, play room and toilet. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for two children at any one time and is currently minding one, who attends on a part time basis. The childminder is a member of the

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a diverse range of activities, which contribute to their good health. They are cared for in a warm, clean home where they are learning about personal care and hygiene. Daily routines are helping children to understand the value of regular exercise, healthy eating and the importance of hand washing to prevent the spread of infection. Regular outdoor activities support children's physical development and well being. They are able to access new challenges and develop already acquired physical skills.

Children benefit from a reasonably healthy, balanced diet and have access to drinks at all times. Parents are consulted about their children's dietary requirements including individual preferences. Children are becoming aware of their own physical needs and are confident to request a drink or a snack.

The childminder has a current first aid qualification and a sound understanding of the ways in which to protect children from infection, through effective hygiene practices.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming home where risks are identified and minimised for example safety gates are in place to prevent unauthorised access to areas of the home. Children are able to move around safely and independently. The childminder gives priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves and others safe. Children are learning about the care of animals as the childminder has three cats.

The children have access to a varied range of good quality toys and equipment, which meet safety standards. The childminder supervises the children's choice of toys to ensure that they are safe and appropriate for their age and stage of development. Children are able to have an undisturbed rest in the play room if required.

Children are well protected. The childminder has a reasonable understanding of the physical and emotional signs, which could be indicative of child protection issues in line with the Area Child Protection Committee procedures and is keen to develop her knowledge in this area.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle well at the childminder's home. They relate well to each other and have the opportunity to socialise with the childminder's children and regular attendance at nursery class and the local library. Children are developing positive social skills and are able to ask questions and participate in conversations.

Children are becoming competent learners as they are able to make choices, explore and investigate, problem solve and ask questions. Children spend their time purposefully and are actively engaged and interested in the activities provided. Children's access to resources is well met. Children are developing their understanding of mathematical concepts and pre-literacy skills. These are supported through access to books, activities to promote mark making and simple addition and subtraction. They are learning to care for the family pets.

Children enjoy being in the company of the childminder as she provides them with a varied and stimulating range of activities, which promotes their learning in an enjoyable way.

The childminder is aware of the Birth to three matters framework and plans to use it when she is caring for younger children.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have limited access to a range of resources and activities, which helps them to develop their knowledge and understanding of the wider community. They are respected and valued as individuals. Children's behaviour is generally, good this is as a result of the childminder developing consistent methods for managing behaviour, which takes into account their age, level of understanding and maturity. Children play well together and show concern for each other and the family pets. The children are developing skills in communicating their feelings and are able to talk about what they enjoy. Children's needs are generally well met and their daily routines are shared with parents. Parents are not provided with written information relating to policies, procedures and services provided, however the childminder intends to develop this area of her practice.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides. Children feel secure within the well organised environment. They are confident to make demands on the childminder in the knowledge that their requests will be appropriately met. Parents are given daily verbal reports on their children's progress. Procedures are used effectively, however the childminder does not keep written progress development records. Children's care and development is supported through the childminders commitment to on going training. Comprehensive systems are in place to keep children safe and enable them to make progress.

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):

- develop resources which present positive images of society

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