



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY302206
Inspection date	29 September 2005
Inspector	Pauline Nazarkardeh

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 2005. She lives with her husband and their 2 year old son. They live in a one bedroom ground floor flat in Harrow near to the tube station, a number of bus routes are a few minutes walk away. There are local parks, library and toddler groups nearby. All areas of the home are used for childminding. There is a garden available for outdoor play.

The childminder is currently caring for 3 children under 8 years. Two of the minded children were present during the inspection.

The family have no pets.

No overnight care is undertaken

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is promoted as the childminder's home is clean and well maintained. The childminder has appropriate hygiene procedures in place which enables children to be cared for in an environment that reduces the risk of infection, when changing nappies she has a clear procedure to follow. Parents are phoned if a child becomes sick at the childminders. Children with contagious infections are excluded until their doctor confirms that it is safe for them to return.

Children's food is currently provided by the parents. Details of children's individual dietary needs are recorded and catered for by the childminder. Drinking water can be accessed when needed, the childminder leaves the children's cups within reach and encouraged all children to have a drink at certain times.

Children enjoy fresh air and exercise as they have many opportunities to use equipment in the home and garden. There are regular outdoor activities such as parent and toddler group, walks and visits to local playgrounds, this helps to develop children's physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder's home is clean and comfortably furnished enabling children to make use of space which is well organised with the child in mind. The children mainly play in the lounge. The children can safely access toys and resources which are well organised in baskets.

Children are able to move around the home safely, freely and independently. The childminder has identified and minimised risks for children in the home and garden. Children currently sleep in the double buggy, although the parents are aware of this practice, the childminder is aware that this is not an ideal situation. Children are kept safe when out as the childminder has in place appropriate procedures, for example, using appropriate car seats and holding hands when crossing the road.

Children have access to a good selection of resources. The childminder monitors and supervises children's choice of toys to ensure they are safe, appropriate and suitable for their ages. The childminder safeguards children's welfare and has the required procedures and documents in place. She has a satisfactory knowledge of child protection and the methods for reporting any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and content, the childminder knows the children well and meets their individual needs effectively. They play enthusiastically with a good range of toys and resources, which fully promote their learning. Children are curious and excited by the variety of suitable activities offered, for example parent and toddler groups and story time at the library.

Children develop their vocabulary skills as the childminder asks them questions and encourages conversation. This helps the children to make sense of the world.

Babies have an interesting range of resources including suitable homemade toys which helps them to explore and build on their natural curiosity. The childminder is keen to build on her knowledge for children under three years of age and is using the birth to three framework in order to help younger children progress and learn in all areas. All children are using their senses to explore, they enjoy listening to music, playing musical instruments and singing simple songs.

Children involve the childminder in their play and they receive lots of warm, individual attention, while babies are sleeping older children can access equipment suitable for their age. This enables them to successfully extend their learning and experiences, in a supportive stimulating environment.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder meets the needs of the children by seeking information from the parents about the child's likes and dislikes and through getting to know the child.

Children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of others is increasing as they enjoy easy access to a good selection of books and play materials promoting positive images of diversity. The childminder helps children to develop a positive sense of self image through her own positive attitude towards inclusion. Children have equal access to all toys and activities.

Children's behaviour is managed appropriately and according to their ages and stage of development, the childminder currently uses distraction as the children are very young. Children are well behaved and are beginning to learn right from wrong. They are encouraged to share, take turns and to have regard for one another.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children feel at home and at ease in the environment provided by the childminder. This means that children are confident, comfortable and settled enough

to initiate their own play and learning. The childminder has gained qualifications in the Introduction to Childminding Practice. She effectively uses the knowledge gained from training and from written guidance to promote the welfare, care and learning of children.

Documentation is well organised and easily accessed. Accident and medication records are in place and are signed by the parents.

The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

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):

- Ensure that sleeping arrangements are suitable for the children and in agreement with parents
- Develop knowledge of current legislation regarding disability discrimination.

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