



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY306158
Inspection date	21 November 2005
Inspector	Christine Tipple

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since 2005. She lives with her husband and their two sons aged three and eight years old. They live in a house in Eastfield, which is within walking distance of shops, schools and parks. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding, which consists of the lounge, kitchen dining room and on the first floor, access to the bathroom only. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

She is registered to take a maximum of five children under eight years old. She currently has four children on roll who all attend part-time. The family have two

budgies as pets.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean environment. They are supported with positive and effective health and hygiene practices and routines. Older children have good independent access to the facilities, which enables them to manage their personal care appropriately. Children are aware of the reasons for washing their hands throughout the day, after play and before meals and snacks. The care of children who are ill or sick is discussed with parents to ensure cross infection is minimised.

Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills both in the garden and on outings. Children visit the local area and walk on a regular basis. For example, walking to and from school, the younger children visit the local park and play area as well use the garden. There is a good range of outdoor equipment provided that extends the range of activities and promotes the children's skills and abilities, such as manoeuvring around obstacles, using balls and sit on wheeled toys. Younger children have music tapes that they practise movement to and all the children use a range of tools effectively through their creative play.

The childminder provides snacks and meals as discussed with parents. The children are offered healthy choices in fruit and savoury snacks. There are no crisps or sweets offered as snack. The childminder encourages and discusses with all the children the importance of eating healthily. Drinks are given throughout the day and children are confident to ask; there is fresh orange juice, milk and water at all times.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in warm and welcoming surroundings. The childminder promotes safety effectively both indoors and outside. Good use is made of the space, which enables the children to move freely around and to access the activities and resources provided. Children have a range of good quality toys and equipment that they can independently select and make choices in what they play with.

Children have good opportunities to practise safety when outside. Older children look where it is safe to cross and use the appropriate crossings to ensure they stop at the kerb, listen and look. This is positive for the younger children who observe this approach at the road side. The childminder overall takes all relevant steps to prevent accidents occurring. This is through the effective routines she shares with the children in their everyday play, for example to tidy up especially toys on the floor.

The children's welfare and safety is promoted through the childminders

understanding of child protection procedures. However, some contact information is insufficient in the details recorded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children are happy and relaxed in the childminders care. They are provided with a variety and balance of activities, which are interesting and reflect their various ages and developmental needs. The childminder plans a focus activity and these offer the children good learning opportunities. For example, shaping and moulding play-doh, positive creative play experiences with a range of materials such as collage, paints and crayons.

Children bake and have daily outings to the local parks and facilities to extend their physical skills.

The childminder interacts effectively with the children. They chat and children express themselves confidently. They are able to access resources and make choices in what they play with which develops their independence. The childminder supports the children's skills to ensure they extend their play opportunities. They bake and take responsibility to wash up. The older children enjoy the company of the younger ones and engage with them positively. This enhances their sense of well-being and making connections in their environment and with other people in their lives.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children's individual needs are recognised and supported effectively. They are relaxed and happy in the care of the childminder. Children have some access to appropriate resources, which reflect diversity and assist the children in raising their awareness.

Provision for the children offers them appropriate access to the resources and facilities in place. Children's behaviour is managed well and the childminder is consistent in her approach. There are realistic boundaries in place that are relevant to the children's ages and level of understanding. Children practise using their manners, to share and take turns. They are learning to respect each other and their environment. Children are praised and encouraged in their play, which promotes their confidence appropriately.

Partnership with parents is good, they are welcomed by the childminder. She provides daily verbal information to parents on their child's day to keep them up to date. She has some planning on the activities offered to the children on a daily basis. The children regularly take home their art work and creations. There are contracts of agreements in place that are relevant and up to date. The childminder ensures time is allocated as required to discuss any issues that may occur, to enable parents to be

confident in the care provided.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The premises are well presented and the space enables the children to have appropriate access to all the resources and facilities in place. The childminder is organised and this promotes an efficient approach to her child care and provision. She has details on further training to develop her skills.

All records are maintained and all relevant details, in relation to children and parents, are recorded. However, some information is not completed in the area of parental consent for medical emergencies. The storage of information is secure and the childminder is aware of confidentiality. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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.

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?
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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 all relevant contact details are provided in relation to child protection
- ensure written parental permission is sought for any emergency medical advice and treatment.

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