



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY309193
Inspection date	06 November 2006
Inspector	Sarah Morfett

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 2005. She lives with her partner and three grown up children in Eltham in the London borough of Greenwich. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and the upstairs bathroom and bedroom for sleeping. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding one child full time. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent/toddler group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean and tidy home. They begin to learn about satisfactory hygiene practices as they have their hands wiped before they eat and the childminder follows suitable nappy changing routines. The childminder talks to the young children as she wipes their hands saying this will make them clean. This ensures they develop suitable hygiene habits from an early age.

Children are protected from the risk of cross infection as there are secure procedures in place. For example, children who are contagious stay at home. The childminder has systems to record accidents and written permission from parents to administer medication and seek emergency medical advice should it be required. Each day the children have fresh air as they visit the local library and toddler groups. Children's all round health is promoted well.

Children have home cooked fresh meals every day. For example, the childminder cooks potatoes and vegetables for the baby to have for lunch. Healthy snacks of fruit are offered and the baby really enjoys sucking the juice from a Satsuma. Regular drinks are available as cups are kept within easy reach. Their dietary requirements are considered as their needs are recorded on the registration form.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a spacious home where steps have been taken to minimise all hazards. Furniture within the home is sturdy; therefore, very young children can pull themselves up and practice their walking by travelling around the room without danger. Toys and resources conform to current safety standards, are clean and in good condition. Children can play in a suitable environment.

Children's safety within the home is promoted because there is a range of appropriate safety equipment in place. For example, a fire guard, safety gate and socket covers mean that little children can not touch items that may be dangerous for them.

The childminder has a sound understanding of child protection procedures. She informs parents of her duty to report any suspicions of abuse and asks them to sign a form acknowledging this. This safeguards and promotes children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have a warm and affectionate relationship with the childminder. They approach her for support and receive lots of reassuring cuddles. This helps the young children to develop confidence. A range of age appropriate toys mean that the young children can develop through play. For example, the childminder rolls a ball to the toddler who manages to catch it. The

childminder has a sound understanding of the 'Birth to three matters' framework as she has attended training. She uses this knowledge to think about the activities she provides and records children's milestones for the parents to share. Children are becoming competent learners.

Young children are beginning to develop communication skills. With the agreement of the parents the childminder talks to the baby in Spanish, she responds to this and shows a sound level of understanding. The childminder reads to the child in English so she is developing an understanding of both languages. They enjoy music, whilst they eat their snack they listen to a music programme on the television. The baby moves her body to the music and looks to the childminder to join in. Later a classical music programme helps to relax the children and settle them before sleep time. Children have adequate play opportunities to help them develop.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are treated with respect and their individual needs are met. When they first start the childminder records information, such as, what language they speak, medical needs and religious requirements. This means that the children are cared for according to the parent's wishes. For example, the childminder speaks Spanish and in agreement with them she talks to the child in Spanish, the child's level of understanding is sound and is able to pick up another language. A small range of toys reflects other cultures and diversities. Therefore, children begin to accept differences from an early age.

Children gain self esteem from the constant praise and encouragement. The Childminder regularly reinforces rules, such as, 'no' to indicate danger and 'bravo' when the child has done something good. The child shows signs of pride and achievement because of this strategy. The childminder demonstrates a positive attitude towards caring for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There is some written information for the parents and they are provided with verbal feedback at the end of each day. Parents report that they are happy with the care their child is receiving. Children are happy within the homely environment.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children play in a suitably organised environment. They are supported by the childminder in a warm and caring way, which helps to make them feel secure. Children's welfare is promoted through discussion with the parents. The childminder has developed her knowledge of childcare by attending relevant courses. For example, she has completed the Introducing Childcare Practice (ICP) course, 'Birth to three matters' framework training and obtained a basic food and hygiene course. Children benefit from her positive attitude.

The registration certificate is displayed and current public liability insurance is in place. Most documentation is available. However, record of children's attendance is not being recorded. This is a breach in regulation and means that children's welfare is compromised. Consequently, the provision does not meet the needs of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure that children's attendance is recorded each day

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk