



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY335700
Inspection date	16 November 2006
Inspector	Jennifer Devine
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 was registered in 2006. She lives with her husband and two adult children in Northolt, in the London Borough of Ealing. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom on the first floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently caring for one child. The childminder has piranha fish in the home.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The home is very clean and well maintained which ensures that children's health is promoted. The childminder has good procedures in place to prevent the spread of infection when attending to children's personal needs. Disposable gloves are worn to change children's nappies and

children do not attend if they are unwell with an infectious illness. Younger children are helped to wash their hands and faces regularly.

There is a safe system to administer medication, which ensures that children are given the correct dosage and parental permission is obtained. The childminder has not yet obtained a first aid certificate but she has attended first aid training in the past which ensures she would know what to do in an emergency.

Children are physically healthy because they have daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They benefit from walks outdoors, exploring in the garden and having opportunities to begin to climb or run when attending toddler groups.

Children enjoy the healthy and nutritious foods offered to them. Currently parents provide all food which the childminder stores appropriately to ensure it is fresh and consumable. Drinks are readily available and young children help themselves to their own beakers when thirsty.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to explore their environment independently as the childminder has taken steps to minimise hazards within the home. For example, safety gates prevent children entering the kitchen or going upstairs. Toys are in a good condition and appropriate for the age and stage of each child. The childminder sets out toys at the beginning of the day which the children can then access and make choices about their play. The childminder also supervises younger children's play closely to ensure their overall safety is maintained.

The childminder is vigilant about safety outdoors and ensures young children are properly strapped into the pushchair when out walking.

Children's well being is safeguarded by the childminder's knowledge and understanding of child protection. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and the reporting procedures to follow if concerned.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and settled in the childminder's care. The childminder has got to know the children she is caring for very well and she takes into account their individual needs and routines when planning activities.

Younger children's learning is well supported by the childminder. This is due to the childminder having a good understanding of the Birth to Three matters framework and using this knowledge to ensure toys and activities promote children's early skills. They receive much stimulation, excitement and interaction during their play. A younger child enjoys dancing and singing to music and is curious to watch a soft ball rolling across the floor being able to gently push it back. Children participate in a range of activities to help them become competent learners such as when experimenting with painting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are respected and valued as individuals. The childminder discusses their needs, such as sleep and dietary requirements and incorporates these into the daily routine. Younger children are gaining self confidence and trust through forming close relationships with the childminder. Children with learning difficulties are welcome into the home as the childminder has experience in this area of childcare.

Age appropriate praise and encouragement are used to manage any behavioural difficulties. The childminder reacts gently and positively to develop children's early understanding of right and wrong.

The childminder has good relationships with parents. Daily verbal discussion and clear communication means that information is shared well to ensure continuity of care. The childminder also keeps a daily diary to record important points in the child's day and to monitor developmental milestones.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children feel comfortable and at ease within a family home environment. Space is available for children to explore play equipment easily. The childminder organises the day for quiet times indoors and times for children to socialise at toddler groups. Children also benefit greatly from the individual attention they receive throughout the day.

Most legally required documentation is in place, except for parental consent for emergency medical treatment.

The childminder has not yet attended the Introduction to Childminding Practice course or the first aid training, but unfortunately this is due to circumstances beyond her control. The childminder however, holds a recognised early years qualification and has worked previously in childcare for many years.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

n/a

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 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.

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 consent for emergency medical treatment is obtained.
- provide confirmation that the Introduction to childminding practise course and first aid training has been completed

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