

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY336800
Inspection date	04 April 2007
Inspector	Thecla Grant
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 partner and two children aged eight years and five years in the Morley area of Leeds. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and is currently minding three children. Two children under five and two children over five. The childminder drives to school to take and collect the children. The childminder attends the local childminding group. The family have two guinea pigs.

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 appropriately taken care of if they have an accident or become ill, because the childminder is trained in administering first aid. She has appropriate permissions and records

in place regarding the administration of medication to children and a written policy regarding children who are sick or have infectious diseases. This is suitably shared with the parents.

The childminder takes appropriate steps to prevent the spread of infection by keeping her premises clean. She further promotes hygiene by making sure children wash their hands before eating. Children have a very good understanding of good simple hygiene practices. As a result, children stay healthy.

Children's dietary needs are recorded and parents take the lead in testing their children's food tolerances. The childminder ensures children have constant access to drinks during the day and regularly asks them if they need drinks. Children are included in choosing what they would like to eat. The children chose beans on toast with ice cream for their lunch. As a result, children's dietary needs are consistently met.

Children enjoy physical activity and look forward to going to the park. They know when they are tired and rest in the living room on the settee, whilst playing a computer game on the hand computer. Later the children request the television programme they want to watch.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment with posters and pictures of children's work displayed in the playroom. The children happily play with a wide range of toys and equipment. These are stimulating and provide sufficient challenge. The childminder provides enough space for children to manoeuvre safely around her home.

The childminder is proactive in making sure appliances in her home are safe. For example, the gas appliances are checked by outside professionals. The childminder uses a safety gate to prevent children from accessing the kitchen and keeps a fire blanket. However, the safety gate is left open most of the morning and the fire blanket is still in its packaging.

Children effectively learn about what is dangerous and how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn about fire safety and know the procedures for evacuation in an emergency. The children have learnt about road safety and have a good understanding of this. The childminder keeps a record of fire practises and the fire evacuation plan is available on the wall of the play room.

Children are safeguarded because the childminder has a suitable understanding of her role in child protection. She is able to put procedures into practice when necessary.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children thoroughly enjoy playing at the childminder's home. They are involved in a broad range of activities which support their language, mathematical thinking and imagination. For example, they enjoy the arts and craft activity supervised by the childminder. They play dressing up games and learn to take turns as they play the lady bird dice game.

The childminder effectively plans her day with the children. As a result, children benefit from a range of activities outside. They go for walks to the local park and local places of interest. The childminder records activities and visits done for the week, she has photo evidence of

children playing at activities indoors and outdoors. For example, playing on the swings and slides in the park.

Children have a very good relationship with the childminder. They are given time to develop their ideas and interests as they play with what is available. The childminder listens to the children and responds well to their interest. The children are comfortable with the childminder and enjoy each others company.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have their individual needs effectively met by the childminder, because she works in close partnership with their parents. The childminder makes sure children's personal details are recorded and she effectively implements them when caring for the children. Parents are given verbal and written feedback with regard to their child's day. For example, the childminder has developed a diary for the children with photo evidence of them at play. Parents are given information about the childminding provision in the welcome folder. This includes the policies and procedures of the setting.

The childminder has a very good awareness of caring for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. She has a policy in place regarding inclusion and has attended a course with this regard. The childminder has a poster depicting disability, which is attractively displayed in the play room. Pictures of different signs for children who are hard of hearing are also in easy access. There are no children on roll with learning difficulties or disabilities.

Children celebrate religious festivals, such as Easter and Christmas. They readily access toys and equipment, which positively reflect disability, race and culture and they include them in their play. As a result, children positively benefit from activities and resources which help them to value diversity.

The childminder promotes good manners through the manners poster displayed in the play room. She gives children clear boundaries which they understand and makes sure children are not bored or frustrated, but are busy and contented. As a result, children are well behaved.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The childminder makes very good use of space and other resources in her home. She consistently works within the constraints of her registered numbers, so that children are well cared for and supported during their time with her. As a result, children's care learning and play is effectively supported.

The childminder is very committed toward her own personal development. She has attended relevant training courses and workshops to develop and improve her knowledge of childcare. For example, an equal opportunity workshop.

The childminder has devised policies and procedures individual to her setting. All documentation is in place. These suitably promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range 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 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):

- make sure children are not exposed to hazards in the kitchen and make sure the fire blanket is easily accessible in the kitchen.

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