



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY337412
Inspection date	06 March 2007
Inspector	Angela Ramsey
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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder has been registered since August 2006. She lives with her two children aged two years and eight years. They live in the London Borough of Lambeth. Children have access to the living room and one bedroom. Local schools and amenities are in easy walking distance.

The childminder is registered to care for two children under eight years old, of which no more than one will be aged under five. There are currently two children under five years on roll, one of whom attends on a part time basis.

The applicant is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean home, which is cleaned regularly to minimise the possible spread of infection. The childminder teaches the children the importance of simple good health and hygiene practices through daily routines, such as reminding the children to wash their hands after using the bathroom and before eating their meals and snacks which prevents cross infection.

Healthy meals and snacks are provided in consultation with parents, taking into consideration and respecting children's individual needs. This promotes children's healthy growth and development. Low sugar drinks, milk or water are provided at regular intervals throughout the day which ensures that the children are well hydrated at all times.

Trips to the local park and toddler groups are a regular feature in the daily routine. Whilst at the park the children are able to run, jump and climb on the climbing frame and enjoy the swings which develops their confidence as well as enhancing their gross motor skills. During the day children are able to have quiet time for sleeping or relaxing, which ensures that children's needs are met appropriately.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has identified potential risks and has taken some action for children's safety such as fitting a stair gate to the entrance of her kitchen and electrical socket covers are in place.

Regarding fire safety the childminder is aware of the importance of practicing fire evacuation procedures with the children, which raises their awareness of their own safety. A smoke alarm is in place, however the childminder's fire blanket is not easily accessible.

Children are beginning to develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe with the childminder's assistance. She talks to them about road safety and ensures children hold hands when on outings and trips.

Some toys are kept in a storage unit, however some of the drawers are out of the children's reach, which encourages the children to climb on the furniture which compromises children's safety.

The childminder has an understanding of the procedures to be followed should she have a concern about a child in her care. She is also aware of the signs and symptoms that would concern her. This knowledge and understanding impacts on keeping children safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled and relaxed in the childminder's home as they play with toys available. The childminder takes the children to the local one o'clock club where they are able to take part in activities with their peers. The children benefit as they are able to engage in role play and be creative with the paint. The children also enjoy trips to the local library. Recently the childminder organised a visit to the London Aquarium where the children were able to observe sea life and also enjoy a picnic by the river Thames.

The childminder has some resources such as duplo, farm yard set, colouring books, pencils, crayons and puzzles. However her selection of toys and resources needs to be increased to ensure all the children's developmental needs are met.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Opportunities for children to learn about the wider world are being promoted due to the childminder providing books which have pictures and stories of people of different cultures. Also when the children visit the one o'clock club they are able to take part in celebrating festivals such as Chinese New Year. This event provided the children with the opportunity to enjoy Chinese cuisine and to listen to Chinese music.

Children behave well and respond to the childminder's consistent expectations regarding acceptable behaviour. The childminder has an appropriate range of strategies in place to deal with behaviour, including distraction and praise. Children are encouraged to share, take turns and have consideration for each other. During discussion the childminder also stated the importance of teaching children good manners by reminding them to say please and thank you.

The childminder has developed a positive relationship with the minded children and their parents. Children's needs are established, through regular discussion with parents, and are met as the childminder follows their daily routines, therefore promoting consistency in their care. Parents are kept informed about all issues relating to their child through daily verbal feedback. The childminder is aware of the current procedures relating to complaints. However, information for parents on complaints procedures have not been devised.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder's certificate of registration is available for parents to view and she has recently completed a food hygiene course. She has also successfully completed a first aid course.

Most of the required documentation is in place and these are efficiently organised and confidentiality is maintained. Daily registers detail children's actual hours of attendance and some parental consents have been sought. However, consent for emergency treatment have not been signed by parents, which may result in their wishes not being known or adhered too.

Though the childminder is aware of the procedures regarding complaints, there is no system in place to record complaints in line with recent legislation.

The childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she 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 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):

- increase toys and activities to help children develop include play materials which reflect diversity that show images of people from a variety of cultural backgrounds and with varying needs
- ensure fire blanket is sighted appropriately and toys and resources are safely accessible for the children
- keep parents updated about procedures and policies, especially in relation to concerns or complaints. Devise a method to record any complaints that may arise
- ensure parents sign consent for emergency treatment and medical advice

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