

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY339195
Inspection date	17 May 2007
Inspector	Helen Ann Woods

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 daughter aged under five years in Northolt in the London Borough of Ealing. The whole of the ground floor flat is used for childminding and there is a secure communal garden for outdoor play and children are regularly taken to the local park. Currently the childminder has one child on roll. She walks to local schools to take and collect children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean, healthy environment where procedures are in place to maintain good levels of hygiene through daily routines such as hand washing. The childminder ensures that children are reminded to wash their hands when they come in from playing outside and after using the toilet.

Children are developing well physically through daily walks to the school, local parks and games out in the large communal garden. Policies and procedures are in place for first aid, accidents and medication ensuring children are well cared for.

Children are protected from unnecessary illness, as they do not attend if they are contagious.

The childminder offers meals that cater for any dietary and medical needs as well as ensuring that food prepared by the parents is stored and prepared correctly. Childminder ensures that parents are aware of the meals their children have taken when in her care.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

There is a suitable range of good quality resources available, which meet the learning needs, and interests of the minded children. Available space is well organised to make best use of toys and resources. They are easily accessible, which enables children to make their own choices and extend their learning through play.

A clear child protection policy safeguards children's welfare and the childminder shares this with parents. She has a good understanding of all issues and is aware of the appropriate procedures to follow.

The childminder's close supervision of children maintains their safety. Children learn to adopt safe practice, such as holding on to the pushchair when walking outdoors and not running indoors. The home is well maintained, clean and welcoming to children and their families.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and very much at home with the childminder. They express themselves confidently using gesture, expression and language whilst choosing from a very good selection of activities. Children develop their vocabulary skills as the childminder asks children questions and encourages them to chat. She listens with interest as they play with puzzles, counting the number of people sitting on the bus and making words with the magnetic coloured letters. Activities such as art and craft, modelling with play dough and pretend play keep the children busy. Children involve the childminder in their play and they receive lots of warm, individual attention, which enables them to successfully extend their learning and experiences.

The childminder follows children's established routines such as feeding and sleeping. She has a sound knowledge of child development. This means that children's personal, social and emotional development is well supported.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's self-esteem is fostered through positive interaction with the childminder. They receive lots of praise and encouragement as she involves herself with their play; children feel valued and confident to try new experiences. Children mix socially with others encouraging them to learn respect for differing cultures and abilities. The childminder's good understanding of children's learning and developmental needs ensure she meets any child's special

requirements. Clear consistent house rules, based around safety and respect for property and people, are in place, which enable children to develop self-discipline.

The childminder and parents form a close working relationship that ensures continuity of care for children. Parents receive copies of all policies and procedures and all relevant recordings concerning their child.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are involved in a range of interesting age appropriate activities both within and away from the childminding setting. The childminder provides good levels of support enabling all the children to participate in all activities. The childminder organises space well to provide optimum benefit for the children. When weather permits she uses outdoor communal gardens so the children have room to exert their energy and explore the environment.

All documents are in place according to regulation. They are stored securely and made available for inspection. She regularly shares them with parents although recording of any concerns does not always maintain confidentiality. The childminder keeps parents well informed about the care that is provided. The childminder meets the needs for 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.

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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 that the recording of concerns maintains confidentiality.

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