



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY341670
Inspection date	27 February 2007
Inspector	Kaldip Kaur Chaggar-Brown
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 child, who is aged under one. The family live in Eccleshill, Bradford. The dining room, kitchen and first floor bathroom and two bedrooms are used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time. She is currently minding two children under five and one child aged over five. In addition, children over the age of eight are cared for. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local toddler group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a good range of activities that contribute to their good health. They are nourished through a well balanced diet that includes a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables. Older children have good opportunities to take part in food related activities, such as preparing fruit for a fresh fruit salad. Children enjoy their social time together at meal and snack times because they are not rushed. They are offered good food choices as they can choose from different types of fruit, such as grapes and satsumas. Drinks are provided in different coloured cups to help children distinguish which is theirs', as they can access them at all times. Daily menus are displayed on the notice board for parents to see. The childminder follows good procedures when preparing food for example, fresh fruit is washed.

Children are developing their awareness of personal hygiene through effective procedures, such as washing hands before eating. Children understand why it is important to wash their hands before eating. The childminder takes precautions to ensure children are protected from cross infection. This includes cleaning the changing mat after use, with anti-bacterial spray.

Children's good health is promoted because the childminder has clear procedures in place to prevent the spread of infection as children with infectious illnesses are excluded. Children's well-being is protected as the first aid kit is easily accessible from the kitchen and the childminder has completed a first aid course.

Children benefit from fresh air and exercise as they play outside in the garden on a regular basis as well as undertake walks in the locality. Children's emotional health is promoted as they are given good support and encouragement by the childminder.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in an environment that is warm and welcoming. Their work is acknowledged as they can see it displayed on the back of the door. Risks are minimised as the childminder takes appropriate precautions to keep children safe. The childminder talks to children about road safety on outings and about tidying up toys so that they are not a tripping hazard. Younger children are beginning to learn about risks and keeping themselves safe as they know they are not allowed into the kitchen because hot food is being prepared. Children practise the evacuation drill so are becoming familiar with it. The childminder has effective systems in place to check on sleeping children.

Children's well-being is protected as the childminder has suitable knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. She is aware of who to contact if she has any concerns. Parents are asked to sign to say that they understand the childminder's child protection policy.

Children develop good independence skills as they move easily between the hall and dining room. Good support is given by the childminder as younger children learn how to use the stairs.

Children learn to make choices about what they want to play with as toys are easily accessible. They negotiate with each other about sharing resources, as well as seeking support from the childminder as to whose turn is it next. Children benefit from a range of age appropriate toys which are in good condition. These offer a wide range of learning experiences which allow children to learn in a variety of ways, including role play situations, looking at books and free play.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a wide range of stimulating activities and experiences. These are based around planned themes, such as colours. Children take part in a structured activity most days; recently these have been based on different painting techniques. Children are stimulated through the activities available and are settled and happy at the childminders. She supports their play by ensuring they have sufficient space to play in and have suitable toys and resources accessible.

Children enjoy finger painting, feeling the paint on their fingers, spreading it around the paper. They smile confidently for photographs which are used to show parents what activity their child has been involved in. Children recount activities that they have enjoyed, such as making crispy buns. Older children are competent at using the computer to devise and print out stories that they have written. Children move around freely and choose to build a tower from plastic bricks. They enjoy this activity and persevere with it. Children are involved in good imaginative play, for example, children pretend to feed babies in pushchairs, take them for a walk and put a blanket over them so that they can go to sleep.

The childminder asks children questions that extend their thinking and follows up with further appropriate questions. She listens to their responses and reinforces children's knowledge and understanding by acknowledging what they know. Children have a good relationship with each other. They play alongside each other as well as allow others to have space to play on their own.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are confident, happy and feel a sense of belonging; they know where things are kept and where their pictures are displayed. Children are treated with respect, as their choices are accepted by the childminder. Children are kept informed of what the childminder is doing to ensure they are settled. Children's individual needs are met in regard to sleep and snacks.

Children take part in a limited range of activities that help them value diversity in society. Festivals such as Christmas and Chinese New Year are celebrated and children taste food as part of the celebration. Children are learning about their community as they go on walks locally. Resources include positive images of diversity in books about different festivals and posters and a book about 'I'm special'. The childminder has a good understanding of the needs of children with physical disabilities and or difficulties.

Children take responsibility for their own actions, for example, children tidy up after themselves. The childminder effectively distracts children with another activity if their behaviour is unacceptable. Younger children are learning that they cannot hurt each other through discussions about feelings. Children respond positively to praise given by the childminder as they smile back at her. This is because she recognises what children are doing. For example, the childminder acknowledges what different marks children have been making in paint with their fingers. Older children discuss house rules and understand how they are affected by them.

The childminder records what stage children are at in profile records. These are shared with parents. Effective systems are in place to keep parents informed of menus, daily activities and childminding arrangements. Newsletters and notices are both used to pass on information. The childminder seeks and obtains required written permissions for use of sun creams and photographs, taking children on outings and taking children in a vehicle. The childminder has a system in place to record complaints.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for by the childminder who has been vetted. She demonstrates commitment to childminding as she attends training courses to keep herself well informed. She has attended training and works within the 'Birth to three matters' framework. Children are cared for effectively through the childminders knowledge of how children play and learn.

The childminder works well within the required ratios; this helps children feel secure and confident. Good organisation of the daily routine allows opportunities for children to play, eat and rest. Children take part in free and structured activities within which the childminder offers good support and encouragement. Space and resources meet children's needs effectively.

The childminder has devised clear policies and procedures for the safe and effective management of the provision. Records are kept up to date and are shared with parents. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for who 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):

- further develop activities that help children value diversity.

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