

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY341919
Inspection date	17 April 2007
Inspector	Krystina Chitryn

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 three children age six, two and 17 months in the Partington area of Manchester. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. She attends local parent/toddler groups and takes children to the library and the local park. She is a member of the National Childminding Association and the local childminding support group.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The childminder has good domestic routines and hygiene practices. She cleans her home daily and wipes surfaces with antibacterial spray, which ensures that the children's health is protected. Children have a rota for cleaning which includes wiping the table and taking dishes to the kitchen. This ensures they are aware of their responsibility and learn the importance of cleaning and staying healthy. Children are protected with sun cream when playing outside in the garden. This ensures their health is maintained.

Children learn about effective personal hygiene routines as the childminder talks about washing their hands and keeping clean. This is reinforced by the picture posters displayed in the bathroom, showing children from a variety of back grounds with varying abilities, washing their hands and combing their hair.

Children have regular exercise by walking to and from the childminders home to the school, to groups and the local park. This helps them to enjoy physical activities and personal fitness.

The childminder discusses dietary needs with parents and provides the food for children. Written information about the children's dietary requirements, including food allergies are recorded in the contracts. Thus ensuring the children's good health is maintained. The childminder offers healthy foods and snacks which include home cooked foods, fresh fruit and vegetables. Children have opportunities to sleep and rest according to their needs. Children are given drinks ensuring they remain hydrated. The sick child policy is shared with parents on admission, ensuring they are aware of when children should not attend.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The premises are clean and well maintained. The childminder checks the toys and equipment daily for cleanliness and safety. The furniture is organised so the children have sufficient space to play on the floor. Children sleep on the settee within hearing distance of the childminder.

Children are stimulated through the good quality toys that are stored at child height and are accessible so that the children are able to make choices. Children's safety around toys and equipment is maintained, as the childminder makes effective checks and provides good quality toys and equipment.

Children's safety is ensured as the home is made safe by the use of safety appliances and a risk assessment is completed daily.

The childminder has a broad understanding of the Safeguarding Children Procedure, enabling her to protect the children from harm. She has a written statement that parents sign to say they are aware of her responsibility to protect children. The childminder uses incident and accident recordings to identify potential risks and keeps parents well informed.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children's individual needs are met in a supportive and homely environment. Children are offered reassurance and are comforted with affectionate hugs and smiles. They respond with smiles and laughter. This helps them to feel safe and secure.

Children have access to a secure outside play area which consists of a variety of out door play equipment. The children play on the equipment and enjoy the childminder pushing them as they swing and ask to go higher. This enables them to develop good physical skills. They receive help, praise and support from the childminder, as they sing and learn to develop their oral skills. This helps them to vocalise, identify and recognise different sounds.

Children self select their toys and play with the childminder who encourages them to participate in activities. As a result the children are interested in what they are doing. They have access to

an extensive range of toys and activities. They gain confidence and benefit from the praise and encouragement that they receive from the childminder.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children have broad access to toys and equipment which reflect our diverse society. This helps them develop their understanding of our wider world. Children are well behaved. This is actively encouraged by the childminder who is supportive of the children and is respectful to them. They are reminded to say please and thank you and are developing respect for others and learning to share. Their behaviour is managed in a positive manner, through the use of distraction, praise and encouragement.

The childminder works effectively with parents to ensure that their children's specific health needs are met. Children benefit from the good relationships, between the childminder and their parents. She exchanges information regularly about the children and a good system of communication ensures an effective passage of information. The childminder ensures that information is shared with the parents about how the child has spent their day. Parents can access the childminders file, which contains her policies and photographs of the children doing a variety of activities. This ensures that the children's parents are kept updated and well informed. They also receive a pack which provides written information on the policies, procedures, activities and menus. Parents are informed of the complaints procedure and a book is available for logging any written complaints received.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children and their families feel welcome in the childminder's home. The required documentation is in place and in order. The childminder organises her day around the children's needs. Children are cared for appropriately as the required ratios are always maintained.

The childminder is aware of updating her training in the 'Birth to three matters' framework to improve her overall practice.

All household members and visitors are subjected to regular checks and visitors are not left unsupervised. 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 the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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 complaint 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):

- update the training on the 'Birth to three matters' framework.

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