



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY320348
Inspection date	22 February 2007
Inspector	Claudia Padfield
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 2005. She lives in Wokingham and has one child. The whole of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. There is currently one child on roll. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler group and the local library. The family has no pets. 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 have access to a broad, interesting and challenging variety of activities, which they enjoy and promotes their good health. They develop control and co-ordination, through activities such as, regular use of the garden and outdoor equipment, outings to parks and other local

facilities further improves physical skills. Children have daily opportunities to enjoy outdoor play and walk to see the local farm animals and splash in the puddles.

Children have their health and dietary needs met because the childminder works well with the parents. The childminder ensures the food she provides for their children, is appropriately prepared, heated and served so children can begin to feed themselves. For example, sitting together with support from the childminder during meal times which are a very sociable occasion as the children and childminder talk about their day. Children have a range of healthy snacks and meals which are freshly prepared and freely help themselves to their drinks which are visually available to encourage independence.

Through good role modelling the children are learning the importance of good hygiene routines. She explains why they need to wipe their faces after lunch and co-operate with the task sitting still. Good documentation is shared with the parents to ensure the children's best interests are met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Risk of accidental injury is minimised because the childminder is vigilant and has a thorough understanding of how to complete daily risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. Children receive a high level of supervision within the home. She has extensive procedures and safety information in place to ensure children can play in a safe and secure environment. When on outings the childminder encourages children to participate in road safety awareness, by stopping at the kerbside, listening and looking for traffic, this helps to increase their understanding of road safety. The childminder provides a range of opportunities to encourage children to learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, holding the buggy when out and walking.

Children benefit from having a dedicated playroom where they can easily access a wide range of toys and equipment. This provides an extremely warm and inviting environment, promoting children's self esteem. The resources are suitable and safe for their ages and stage of development. The childminder carries out daily checks on all equipment and implements effective procedures to clean and maintain this ensuring the provision is safe for all children to use.

The childminder safeguards and promotes children's welfare and development through regular communication with parents, concise and very comprehensive written policies and procedures, this ensures that all required documentation is accurately completed and in place. However she needs to update her first aid certificate.

Children are protected and safeguarded from harm because the childminder has an understanding of her role concerning child protection. Secure systems are in place to ensure the safe arrival and collection of children, which are included in written procedures and discussed with parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are well settled and very at home in the childminder's house. They are confident and relaxed with the childminder, thus providing them with a secure base on which to build and learn about the world in which they live. Children seek comfort and interact warmly with the childminder who knows their likes and dislikes well.

The childminder is warm and affectionate making children feel comfortable and valued. She has a sound relationship with the children and enjoys their company. Outings on most days include visits to local parks and groups; this provides children with opportunities to socialise within a wider group. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the needs of young children. The childminder and parents share daily information on the children; this effectively provides an environment that allows children to make consistent progress in their development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The childminder knows each child well, she treats them with respect, meets their needs and values their individuality, this helps them to feel good about themselves. She has a sound understanding of all equal opportunity issues. The childminder acknowledges that some children may have special needs and would always work closely with parents to ensure that their needs are fully met. Children develop a sense of place and learn about where they live through regular outings for example. Children have access to a suitable range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity, for example visits to locally run groups gives the children time to socialise with a wider circle of friends. These also ensure children learn about the wider world.

Children respond well to the childminder and behave well, they are aware of their boundaries and the childminder manages children's behaviour calmly and patiently. This encourages children to respond effectively to any guidance and praise. Detailed information in the childminder's portfolio, written procedures and informal discussion enables parents to be well informed about the childminder and the service she provides.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children are secure and confident in the environment. Policies and procedures that contribute to children's health, safety and wellbeing are in place. However arrivals and departures are not regularly updated. The childminder shares information about the provision and the children's activities with parents on a daily basis. This contributes to continuity in the children's care. The childminder must inform the regulator of any significant changes.

The childminder improves her knowledge and understanding by researching information on the internet to enhance the care and needs of the children who attend. This ensures she is able

to provide appropriate care for the children she looks after. The setting meets the needs of the range of 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):

- update first aid qualification
- ensure Ofsted are informed of any significant events
- ensure daily registers of attendance are completed

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