



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	126004
Inspection date	13 July 2005
Inspector	Linda Patricia Coccia
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 & X U U U X X G H R M F K H I R X Q G D W D R Q

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

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For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet \$ H \ R U H D R U \ R X Q V S H W I C W L A V I A L E from Ofsted's website: Z Z Z R I V W X C J R Y

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 1999. She lives with her husband and four children aged between 3 months and 12 years in Halfway, Sheppey. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time and is currently minding one child aged 2 years. The childminder drives to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. She attends the local parent/toddler group.

The childminder can support children with special educational needs. She is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are offered a varied, healthy diet. The childminder works closely with parents to provide good quality fresh food, snacks and drinks. The children attending like sausage rolls for lunch but are also offered fruit and yogurts to compliment whatever they choose. Children have choices about the foods they eat and learn about having a healthy diet.

Children participate in effective personal hygiene procedures. They wash their hands or use antibacterial wipes to wipe hands after using the toilet and playing in the garden. A child present during the inspection, was very intent on wiping her dolly's bottom with wipes and explained to her doll that she needed to be 'nice and clean'. She is mimicking things she has seen and heard the childminder doing with her own baby. Children begin to understand about personal hygiene.

Children benefit from regular physical exercise as there is a wide range of good physical play equipment available both in the garden and indoors. They take regular walks to toddler groups and local parks with the childminder and have days out at the beach. Children enjoy physical exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a spacious home where risks are identified and minimised. This means they are able to move around safely, freely and independently. Toys are kept clean and are safe for children to use. They help to clean and care for them. Children learn to respect their toys.

Children learn about safety through their play. A child strapped her dolly into its seat as she is strapped into her seat for meal times. The childminder encourages children to think about why they need to consider keeping themselves safe. Children are also kept safe when off the premises through the various, well thought out, procedures used by the childminder. They cover travelling in the car and when out walking. Children learn about keeping themselves safe.

The childminder has good procedures for the safe collection of children, using passwords and meeting family members to ensure the appropriate persons collect children. She also has a good understanding of local child protection procedures and has supporting information and contact numbers. This all contributes to positively promoting children's wellbeing.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the childminder's home. They achieve well because the childminder is caring, professional and has a good understanding of how young children develop. They learn about shape, texture and colour through the wide range of craft activities provided. The

childminder keeps examples of children's work in a portfolio. They also experience a sense of their local community through attending a variety of groups and day trips out with the local childminder group. A photographic record is kept of outings and then shared with parents so that they can see what their children have been enjoying.

Children make good use of the toys and activities made available to them. They enjoy the attention the childminder gives them and she reinforces their learning by using effective language with them e.g. identifying colours, numbers and sizes. The childminder has a copy of Birth to three matters and has used it to get ideas for activities.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children use a range of suitable toys which show positive images of race, culture, disability or gender, thus ensuring that they learn about each other's differences and needs.

Children receive lots of praise for their achievements and care for one another e.g. talking to the baby to make her smile or helping to stop her crying. The childminder has effective, written behaviour management strategies which are agreed and shared with parents and compliment strategies they use at home. The childminder is enthusiastic about giving praise and not dwelling too much on negative behaviour. Children play freely within effective boundaries and develop good self esteem.

Children also benefit from the childminder working in partnership with their parents. The childminder's service statement is very well written and covers a multitude of information which encourages parents to work with her to provide a warm and friendly atmosphere for the children and helps her complete her paperwork appropriately. Information is exchanged verbally at the end of each day and children benefit from the continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder has completed an Introducing Childcare Practice (ICP) course and has a current paediatric first aid certificate. Her registration document is displayed and all adults in the household have been vetted. The childminder has acceptable levels of paperwork completed on each child. However, not all written permissions are in place. Her attendance register is marked daily and all relevant paperwork is shared with parents. The childminder has completed a service contract with parents which is regularly reviewed. Children's records are confidential and stored appropriately. The needs of the children currently attending are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- obtain written permission from parents for the application of sun creams to children.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet [& R P S ODELRXIW VDHUGD X ER QHFURER P S O D E R X I W W H G V](#) UR Q H J X O D V C Q S H K W H G H G D X W L R Q H Q R which is available from Ofsted's website: [ZZZ R I V W X G J R Y](#)