

Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | 138592            |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 06 September 2007 |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Jenny Kane        |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Childcare         |
| <b>Type of care</b>            | 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](http://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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

At the time of the inspection there were no children on roll. Ofsted judges that the provider remains suitable to provide care.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1998. She lives with her husband, who is also her assistant, and two adult sons in Chatham. The childminder has recently moved from Middlesex where she was minding three children. As there are no children on roll currently, the quality of the provision cannot be judged better than satisfactory because there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children.

The ground floor only is used for childminding with access to the upstairs bathroom. The childminder does not currently use the garden. She is registered to care for a maximum of four children at any one time. School, pre-schools, toddler groups, shops and parks are within walking distance. The childminder can support children who speak English as an additional language.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has a sound understanding of suitable procedures to promote children's good health, by ensuring that positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures are put in place when children are ill (National Standard 7: Health). She holds a first aid certificate and intends to renew this, as it will expire shortly. The childminder has available first aid supplies and intends to check the contents for sufficiency. Although she has a means of recording medication and accidents, these are in the form of sheets, which can be mislaid. The childminder ensures that food and drink for children is adequate, properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements. (National Standard 8: Food and drink).

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

The premises are safe, secure and include the necessary facilities for children. The childminder demonstrates an awareness of how to ensure the environment is made welcoming to children. (National Standard 4: Physical environment) The furniture, equipment and toys are safe and appropriate for the needs of children. (National Standard 5: Equipment) However, many of the play materials are still in storage due to the move. The childminder intends to check her supply before resuming childminding. The childminder understands how to promote children's safety and take precautions to prevent accidents. (National Standard 6: Safety) She intends to carry out further checks to ensure all areas used by children are safe and hazard free. The childminder has a sound knowledge of child protection procedures approved by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, and is aware of their responsibility to protect the welfare of the child. (National Standard 13: Child Protection)

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has a satisfactory knowledge of how individual children, develop and learn. (Standard 3: Care, learning and play) She has seven years experience as a childminder.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has an appropriate knowledge and awareness of the importance of treating each child with equal respect and concern (National Standard 9: Equal opportunities). She herself speaks several languages including Bengali and feels able to offer an equal opportunities service. However, access to toys which provide positive images is currently limited. She is aware that some children may have learning difficulties or disabilities, and understands the importance of working in partnership with parents and with other professionals to promote the welfare and development of the child (National Standard 10: Special needs). The childminder shows a willingness and commitment to working with parents to manage children's behaviour in a consistent way, which promotes the child's welfare and development (National Standard 11: behaviour). She has a satisfactory understanding of the need to develop a strong partnership with parents, taking into account their differing needs. (National Standard 12: Working in partnership with parents and carers) She has some written information and policies to keep

prospective parents informed about her service. However, some of these are disorganised and lack detail.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder is aware of the duty to ensure that other people living or working on the premises are suitable to be in contact with children (National Standard 1: Suitable person). She understands the importance of working within the constraints of the condition of registration relating to number of children; and of organising space and resources to best meet the needs of the children (National Standard 2: Organisation). The childminder has a sound awareness of the records to be kept and the importance of these. (National Standard 14: Documentation) Although she has documentation and record forms these are out of date and some do not hold sufficient information about the children.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

The previous inspection highlighted three recommendations. The childminder has attended training earlier this year to increase her knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures. She has increased her supply of resources for children's imaginative play and those that provide positive images. However, because most of the toys are in store this will be carried forward from this inspection.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since the 1 April 2004 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):

- improve documentation on administration of medication and recording accidents
- carry out a risk assessment to ensure hazards are reduced in all areas used for childminding

- ensure the provision of sufficient play materials appropriate to children's age and stage of development
- ensure children have access to a broad range of resources and activities which reflect diversity
- update the existing policies and written information for parents
- ensure that all required records and documentation are in place.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)