

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 122941
Inspection date 05 March 2008
Inspector Helen Deegan

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder became registered in 1990. She lives with her family in Tooting in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The whole of the ground floor of the property is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder currently has one child on roll. She regularly attends local toddler groups.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has attended training on infection control and asks parents not to bring children with infectious illnesses so that other children are protected from the spread of infection. Her home is sufficiently well maintained, however, there is a smell of smoke from smoking which takes place when minded children are not present.

The childminder has not maintained a current first aid qualification which compromises children's health and safety. However, she is booked onto a course to update her knowledge concerning this. Systems are in place for the recording of accidents, incidents and medication. However,

the childminder states that she has not needed record anything in over twenty years since she first became registered.

Children receive a healthy and nutritious variety of meals and fresh drinks are available to them all times. Menus are displayed for parents and information about children's dietary requirements are requested so that their individual needs can be appropriately met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

The childminder has not ensured that household members are vetted as they reach the age of 16, therefore, children's safety is not sufficiently protected. She has taken appropriate steps to ensure safety in most areas of the premises. A fire blanket, smoke alarms and socket covers are in place, however, jigsaw puzzles are stored in plastic bags within children's reach which presents a risk to their safety.

The childminder displays posters and some of the children's drawings along with her certificate of registration which helps to create a welcoming environment. She has an adequate range of toys and resources, however it is stored in boxes which are stacked to a height that children cannot reach which limits their choices. She makes an adequate selection of toys accessible to the children each day and provides child sized tables and chairs so that children's independence and self help skills are encouraged.

The childminder has a good understanding of the indicators of abuse and the procedures to follow should a concern about a child arise.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has a quiet, calm and gentle manner with the children. She sits with them while they play and offers some commentary on what they are doing. She is often quiet with the children, asking only occasional questions which require yes or no answers. She does not ask sufficient age-appropriate open ended questions which encourage the children to think, speak and develop their understanding.

The childminder provides a range of activities and regularly takes children to toddler groups and the library where they have opportunities to play with other children and develop their social skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has produced a written equal opportunities policy. She provides toys which reflect people of different race, ability and culture so that children gain positive messages about diversity. She obtains basic information about children's requirements from parents and discusses any concerns about children's development with them so that their individual needs are met. She has produced a behaviour management policy which describes appropriate strategies for dealing with unwanted behaviour. On the day of the inspection the childminder maintained a calm, gentle approach and children behaved well.

The childminder displays information for parents including her certificate of registration and the daily menu. She provides information about how they may make a complaint on the contract and provides daily verbal feedback. Therefore, parents are sufficiently well informed about their children's progress.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The childminder has not maintained a current first aid certificate and has not ensured that all household members aged over sixteen are vetted and police checked. Children's safety is therefore significantly compromised.

She has the required documentation in place and attends ongoing training courses to update and improve her knowledge of childcare issues. The childminder does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was asked to ensure that children's surnames are recorded in the attendance register and to provide a sufficient range of toys which reflect diversity. Children's full names are now recorded in the attendance register and a sufficient range of toys which positively promote diversity are now available to the children.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since April 2004 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required either 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure that all household members aged over sixteen undergo the necessary checks including a Criminal Records Bureau check at the earliest opportunity

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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