



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	124795
Inspection date	12 October 2005
Inspector	Laura Brewer
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 has been registered since December 1993. She lives with her husband and 2 children ages 15 and 9 years. The family live in a house in Addiscombe within the London Borough of Croydon, close to schools, parks and transport services.

The downstairs is mainly used for childminding purposes which includes a designated playroom. Toilet facilities are provided upstairs. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outdoor play. The family do not have any pets except fish.

The childminder is first aid qualified and is a member of the National Childminding Association. She currently provides out of school care from Monday to Thursday for 2 children ages 7 and 11 years.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean and well organised home. They learn about the importance of good hygiene practices, such as washing their hands before meals, which reduces the risk of cross contamination. Children benefit from well planned varied meals that ensure their dietary needs are met throughout the day. They take part in a range of activities that contribute to their good health and physical development, such as playing outdoors on a daily basis or practising physical skills such as cutting or building with construction sets.

The childminder has a current first aid certificate and has effective procedures in place for recording accidents. Medication records are used, although they lack sufficient detail which may result in parents not receiving accurate information. Children's health is well supported as the childminder gives high priority to children's wellbeing by building secure relationships and taking detailed information about the child's individual needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to move freely and safely around the home and garden because the childminder takes effective steps to reduce potential hazards. They independently choose activities from a wide range of good quality resources, which the childminder makes sure are suitable for their age and stage of development so they can play safely.

The childminder gives high priority to maintaining children's safety; for example, by supervising them at all times, and by making sure information about child protection procedures is readily accessible. This safeguards and promotes children's welfare. Children also take responsibility for their own safety and can clearly explain why they should not run around the house in order to prevent accidents. The risk of accidents outside the home is reduced because the childminder is conscientious about ensuring children are safe on outings; for instance, by ensuring that children hold hands whilst walking to keep themselves safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are developing confidence and self-esteem. They choose from a wide range

of developmentally appropriate resources, both indoors and out. They show interest in their activity, such as working together to complete a word-search activity. Children freely ask questions and initiate conversations with the childminder and her own children.

Children's social development is encouraged by the childminder's positive interactions and they enthusiastically join in conversations about what they have been doing at school for that day. Their learning is extended and they develop a good sense of achievement through the childminder being interested in their activities and using good questioning techniques. Children are settled and confident in their surroundings. They have built up strong relationships with the childminder and her family. They are able to co-operate well, share and take turns.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children are valued and their individual needs are met because the childminder spends time getting to know them well. The childminder works closely with the parents to identify the children's likes and dislikes, routine and individual needs to ensure they settle well and experience consistent care. During the admission stage parents are provided with clear information about the service and the use of a contact book is offered to aid information exchange.

Children behave well because of the good relationships fostered. The childminder's good use of praise and encouragement builds children's self-esteem. Children are able to negotiate with each other during their play and work harmoniously together. Children have access to the full range of activities offered and the childminder ensures resources are available that promote a positive view of the wider community.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children feel at home and at ease in the well organised environment which helps them gain confidence and be independent. Children's play opportunities are maximised because of the organisation of the home including a well resourced playroom. Appropriate procedures work in practise to keep children healthy and safeguard their welfare.

Children's needs are well met because of the good relationships and communication systems set up with the parents. Parents are well informed about their child's day and the care provided. Documentation is well maintained and kept confidentially. The provision meets the needs of the children for whom they provide.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder agreed to develop her knowledge and understating of child protection issues and ensure that children's dates of birth are

recorded on agreement forms.

The childminder has developed her understanding of child protection issues by familiarising herself with the local child protection committee procedures to promote children's safety and welfare. Children's dates of birth are now recorded on the agreement forms, ensuring that accurate information is maintained for all children.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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):

- ensure records of administered medication includes the dosage and time it was given. Ensure that parents countersign the records to acknowledge each entry.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk