



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 138646
Inspection date 14 September 2005
Inspector Victoria Vasiliadis

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 satisfactory. 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 1992. She lives with her husband and three adult children aged twenty, eighteen and fifteen years. They live in a residential area of Ruislip in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The downstairs of the home is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for six children under eight years at any one time and is currently minding two children under two years on a full-time basis and two children aged two and five years on a part-time basis. She is not registered to provide overnight care. The family have a dog.

The childminder is a member of National Childminding Association, she is currently training to do Quality first with Hillingdon sure start.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a healthy diet and are offered regular drinks throughout the day. Children enjoy varied and nutritious meals and snacks that are provided by the childminder in agreement with parents. These take into account special dietary requirements to ensure children remain healthy.

Children enjoy a selection of activities which contribute to their good health. There are regular outdoor activities such as outings to the park, walks and visits to toddler groups.

The children are happy in the warm and clean environment. The childminder has appropriate hygiene procedures in place that enable children to be cared for in an environment that reduces the risk of infection.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to an internal environment that is safe and free from potential risks. The childminder has identified and minimised hazards within the home. However, the childminder has not addressed some hazards in the garden. For example there are building materials accessible to children.

Children have access to a selection of resources. The childminder monitors and supervises children's choice of toys to ensure they are safe, appropriate and suitable for their ages. The childminder safeguards children's welfare and has the required procedures and documents in place. For example, the childminder holds a valid first aid certificate and has a satisfactory knowledge of child protection procedures.

The home is comfortably furnished and equipped enabling children to make good use of space that is well organised with the child in mind.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are comfortable at the childminder's home. They are settled in the environment provided by the childminder, for example the children sought out the childminder for comfort and one child fell asleep in the childminder's arms whilst having a cuddle.

The children are provided with sufficient opportunities to develop their physical skills

as they have access to a garden, they go for walks to parks, the lido, shops and visit toddler groups.

Children have access to resources that offer sufficient challenges, are stimulating and interesting in order to extend their learning and development. The children enjoyed playing with the musical toys and climbing in and out of the toys' boxes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with a selection of resources that reflect positive images such as dolls, books and puzzles. These resources are beginning to increase the children's awareness of diversity and understanding of others within the wider community.

Children's behaviour is managed appropriately and according to their ages. Children are just beginning to learn right from wrong. They are encouraged to share and take turns. The childminder has an understanding of the needs of the children, whilst ensuring parent's views are sought.

Good partnership with parents contributes significantly to children's wellbeing. The childminder ensures that parents know how their children are progressing and developing. Information is shared verbally with parents on a daily basis and a memory book is used recording children's achievements and development.

The children are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder meets the needs of the children by seeking information from parents about the child's likes and dislikes and through getting to know the child.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The childminder's procedures are regularly shared with parents to keep them informed about their child. This contributes to the continuity in the children's care.

The children feel at home and at ease in the environment provided by the childminder. This means that children are confident, comfortable and settled. The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was requested to fit a smoke alarm, make the stairs safe and to ensure sharp knives were out of reach to children. She has now completed these safety issues ensuring children are not exposed to hazards in the home. She was also asked to provide more toys that reflected positive images and has now done this to ensure children have access to positive images of the wider community in which they live.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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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):

- Ensure children are not exposed to hazards in the garden.

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