



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 137648
Inspection date 01 February 2006
Inspector Pauline Nazarkardeh

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 1989.

The childminder lives with her husband, father-in-law, mother-in-law and three adult children.

They live in an extended semi detached house in a quiet residential area of Wembley. The home is within easy reach of South Kenton and Preston Park tube stations. Parks, shops and schools are located near by. The childminder drops off children to Preston Park School. She speaks Gujarati, Hindi and English.

The ground floor is used for childminding which includes a through lounge, the extended dining/kitchen area, toilet and the conservatory. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association (NCMA). She works with an assistant and currently has two children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy an interesting range of well balanced, healthy snacks and meals, which meet their individual dietary requirements. Children can sit and eat comfortably at child size tables. Alternatively, they can sit on floor cushions and eat food displayed on a clean surface, this is a cultural tradition. Children enjoy drinking juice or water and enthusiastically eat freshly prepared food, such as rice and yogurt curry.

Their health is promoted as the childminder sustains very good levels of hygiene throughout the home. Children are developing self-care skills, as they are encouraged to wash their hands before and after meals and after toileting. Good policies and procedures are in place for first aid, accidents and medication, which ensures children are very well cared for. However, the childminder's first aid qualification has recently expired. Children are protected from unnecessary illness as they do not attend if they are contagious.

Children benefit from regular outdoor exercise as they enjoy playing in the garden, using push and pull along toys. They walk to and from school and visits to friends. These activities provide opportunities to promote children's overall physical development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are secure and settled in their surroundings as they are looked after in a warm, welcoming, child focused environment.

They are able to explore and move around freely and safely as the childminder has minimised all potential hazards and risks both indoors and outside. Suitable furniture and a good range of equipment and resources create a safe and stimulating environment. Toys and resources are set out attractively, they are well organised and stored at low levels. This encourages children's interest, enticing them to play.

The childminder has developed sound fire evacuation procedures which children are familiar with. She has the required documents and procedures in place to ensure child's welfare is safe guarded and promoted. For example, she has appropriate written child protection procedures along with a good understanding of her role and responsibilities in this area. Children are safe guarded through a variety of practical

measures. These include, covering electrical sockets and maintaining risk assessment records.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and content as the childminder knows the children well and meets their individual needs effectively. They have lots of fun and play enthusiastically with a good range of toys and resources, which fully promote their learning. They are curious and excited by the wide range of activities offered. For example, in the conservatory the childminder set out the toys before the children arrive and they talk about how they are going to cook rice later in the kitchen.

Children develop their vocabulary as the childminder asks them questions and encourages conversation. The childminder encourages language development, for example she talks to one child in both English and Gujarati. She encourages their imagination as they enjoy making up stories, this helps children to make sense of the world.

The childminder is keen to build on her knowledge for under 3's to provide a wider selection of activities and resources to help younger children progress and learn in all areas. All children are using their senses to explore. They enjoy listening to music, playing musical instruments and singing simple songs.

Children involve the childminder in their play and they receive lots of warm, individual attention. This enables them to successfully extend their learning and experiences, in a supportive stimulating environment.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are very well behaved as the childminder provides consistent boundaries and offers lots of praise and encouragement. They enjoy close relationships with the childminder and her family. They feel at home in the caring environment as they select toys independently and make choices in their play.

Children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of others is increasing as they enjoy easy access to a selection of books and play materials promoting positive images of diversity. The childminder speaks to the child in both English and Gujarati encouraging his language development. Their understanding about the wider world is extended by regular outings to groups and the park. The childminder helps them to develop a positive sense of self image through her own positive attitude towards inclusion. Children have equal access to all toys and activities.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. They are happy and content as the childminder has good relationships with parents. Detailed information is shared with the childminder to ensure the children's needs are well met and they are cared for according to parents wishes.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children feel at ease and content in the well organised environment. The childminder is warm and affectionate towards them and the children are happy and relaxed in her care. The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of caring for children, which means their welfare, care and developmental needs are met effectively.

The childminder is keen to develop her knowledge and skills to benefit the children, for example by attending Birth to three matters training.

Children's overall care, learning and welfare are enhanced by the information shared between parents and the childminder. Policies and procedures are put into practice to ensure children are well cared for. Overall, the childminder meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At her previous inspection the childminder was asked to extend on the range of activities and resources that promote disability. She has made improvements and now has a selection of resources and is in process of developing her knowledge in this area. She was also asked to enter full details on children's registers this has been full met. These improvements have had a positive effect on the quality of care provided.

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):

- renew the first aid qualification
- further enhance the quality of care and learning for children by undertaking a suitable training, for example, the Birth to three matters framework.

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