

Inspection date	29 January 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has a good rapport with the children, which helps them to feel happy and safe.
- The childminder provides a good variety of resources for children to play with, appealing to their interests and meeting their learning needs.
- The childminder carries out regular observations of children's development, which enables her to plan effectively for their next stage of learning.
- The childminder knows the children well, which helps her to support their personal, social and emotional development effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not seek parents' views regularly about the service she offers, to inform her self-evaluation.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- develop strategies to collect parents' views on a regular basis, to inform self-evaluation.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including policies and children's developmental records.
- The inspector discussed aspects of practice with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder and children interacting and playing together.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn through play. She extends children's learning by asking appropriate questions and enabling them to explore and develop their own ideas. The childminder selects resources that will interest and challenge individual children and, by playing alongside them, she supports their learning well. For example, after children have helped to build the train track, the childminder encourages them to 'go on then, try to give it a good push' to push the lever to turn it on. The childminder observes children well and assesses these observations in relation to their expected levels of development. This enables her to identify next steps in learning tailored to children's individual needs. Children make good progress and are prepared well for their next stage in learning or school. The childminder uses daily conversations and contact books to ensure good two-way communication with parents, which helps to ensure children's needs are met and that parents can support children's learning at home. The childminder evaluates her practice and reflects on any changes she makes. However, the childminder does not seek parents' views regularly to support her self-evaluation and ongoing improvements.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children are very settled and comfortable in the childminder's care. She gathers information about children's likes, dislikes and care needs from parents before children start, so that she can give each child individual attention promptly. This enables children to feel supported, safe and develop in confidence. The childminder encourages children to follow a healthy lifestyle and she is aware of any dietary requirements. For example, children know that the carrots and tomatoes they grow, and eat at snack times, are good for them. Children play in the garden and go on outings regularly to develop strong physical skills. The childminder acts as an excellent role model, speaking to children clearly and with respect.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She promotes children's safety well and assesses risks daily, ensuring the environment is safe and secure. The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding children from harm and the procedures to follow if she has concerns. The childminder plans activities flexibly, taking into account children's interests. For example, the childminder recognises a child's specific interest in trains and plans craft activities based on this theme. The childminder maintains positive relationships with the local pre-school and school. She supports children effectively during times of change, ensuring they develop into independent, confident and active learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405346
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	951160
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder, registered in 2010 on the Early Years register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare register. She lives with her husband and three school aged children in Tunbridge Wells. Children use a large playroom and lounge area plus downstairs bathroom facilities. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play. The childminder holds an appropriate level 3 qualification.

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