

<b>Inspection date</b>	22 January 2015
Previous inspection date	13 January 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder does not sufficiently take into account the consequences of her own and others actions. Therefore, babies and children are not always kept fully safe while in her care.
- The childminder does not provide the children with a range of natural resources to enable them to explore different textures and learn about the world around them.

### It has the following strengths

- The childminder successfully engages with parents and encourages their involvement in their child's learning.
- Children settle well into the childminder's care because of her warm, caring nature and effective settling-in procedures.
- The childminder finds out about children's individual needs and interests to meet their individual requirements and support their progress and development.
- The childminder plans focused and interesting activities, which meet all areas of learning and development.
- The childminder extends children's communication and language development through displaying posters in the environment to support them to learn that words have meaning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- review the risk assessments to minimise risks to health and safety of the children, ensuring that babies and children are not left unattended while eating and children are not permitted to open stair gates.

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

- provide a range of natural objects of various textures and weights, to excite and encourage young children's interest and stimulate their senses.

### To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff in their care (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of the children and staff in their care (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

## Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder various aspects of children's care, and the childminder's understanding of how children learn and develop.
- The inspector observed the children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at all available documentation as part of the inspection process, including children's learning journeys.

### Inspector

Sara Garrity

## Inspection findings

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

The childminder completes assessments on the children to record their achievements. She is aware of children's interests and provides appropriate toys and resources. For example, she provides a sorting game to support children's interest in posting objects. The childminder supports children's learning by skilful questioning. For example, she reinforced words with actions as children pointed to the hamster's nose in the book. This helps children to develop their communication and language skills. The childminder offers the children a stimulating and interesting environment. However, they have fewer opportunities to investigate natural resources and explore textures through a range of tactile objects.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

Children enjoy close relationships with the childminder. Her settling-in procedure helps children form secure emotional attachments with her. She gathers information from parents prior to children starting to ensure she is aware of their preferences and care routines. The children are happy and demonstrate they feel safe in the environment as they explore, knowing that the childminder is close by for a cuddle and reassurance. The childminder provides the children with balanced, healthy snacks and meals to support their growth and development. Children enjoy daily opportunities to play outdoors to develop their physical skills. They enjoy attending toddler groups, as well as, meeting with friends and other childminder's for trips to parks and local places of interest.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement**

The childminder carries out assessments of the environment to identify risks to children. However, the childminder does not always closely supervise babies who are eating. She also allows older children to open stair gates, which are in place to limit access to areas. Consequently, procedures to keep children safe and secure require improvement. The childminder is committed to building positive relationships with parents. She speaks to them on a daily basis about how their children have been during the day and the different activities and outings they have enjoyed. The childminder demonstrates an understanding of the need to work in partnership with other professionals to support the children. She has links with the local children's centres and attends childminding support groups as part of her commitment to improving her practice.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY398690
<b>Local authority</b>	Medway Towns
<b>Inspection number</b>	844832
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	4
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	3
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	13 January 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives with her family in Gillingham, Kent. The whole of the downstairs and one bedroom and bathroom upstairs are used for childminding. Accessibility to the home is restricted, with steps leading to the front door. There is a fully enclosed garden. The childminder has three children on roll in the early year age range. The childminder operates all week from 7am to 7pm. The childminder walks or drives to local schools to drop off and collect children. She attends local parent and toddler groups and also receives support from the local authority.

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