

Inspection date	10 March 2015
Previous inspection date	16 July 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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		Outstanding	1
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

- Children play in a bright, welcoming and child-friendly environment. Play spaces have been organised exceptionally well to offer children choice, independence and a wealth of learning opportunities.
- Children are given time and space to investigate, explore and discover, building on their learning and knowledge successfully.
- Children use their imaginations to great effect as they play, having access to a vast range of toys and resources that encourage them to use their imaginations and to take on make-believe roles.
- Children take risks as they play but have a high regard for safety. This is because the childminder gives clear guidance, explanations and support.
- The childminder has a good understand of safeguarding. She ensures that her knowledge is kept up to date, which means that she knows the procedures and who to contact should she have any concerns about children in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently encourage parents and carers to add their comments into their children's developmental profiles.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further ways to encourage parents and carers to add to their children's developmental profiles.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, the childminder's assistant and children.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Karen Scott

Inspection findings

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

The childminder knows the children that she is caring for very well. This helps her to plan activities that are meaningful to them, that they will enjoy and that promote positive outcomes. The childminder is skilled at giving children space and time to follow interests but also knows when to join in with play and extend children's learning. She observes children as they play and supports them as they undertake developmentally difficult tasks, such as cutting with scissors. Children are very well prepared for the next steps in their learning. They are making very good progress in an environment that is rich in conversation. Parents and carers may share in their children's learning whenever they wish and they particularly enjoy seeing photographs of their children each day. However, the childminder does not consistently encourage parents to add their own observations to their children's developmental progress.

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

The childminder works very closely with parents and carers so that she is able to meet children's needs, helping them to settle exceptionally well. Children feel safe and secure with the childminder, resulting in them being happy and extremely confident. Children are independent learners and have high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They are supported to play cooperatively and have formed strong relationships. Children have an excellent understanding of right and wrong and have a high regard for others as they play. This is due to good role modelling from the childminder who regularly praises children to raise their levels of self-esteem.

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

Activities and children's learning are effectively assessed to ensure that children consistently learn and make good progress. The childminder continuously thinks about how to add to experiences and adapt the setting to provide learning for all. Parents and carers views and opinions are valued in the evaluation process. The childminder has started to build on her knowledge by enrolling in training. Partnerships with professionals and other settings that children attend are strong, which benefits children. The childminder has a high regard for children's safety, helping to ensure that they are safeguarded.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY384168
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	829880
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Penenden Heath, Maidstone, Kent. She works with a co-childminder. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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