

Inspection date	13 March 2015
Previous inspection date	23 February 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

- The childminder forms exceptional relationships with the children and listens carefully to their views. These actions support and enhance children's personal, social and emotional well-being extremely well.
- Children make good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points on entry. This is because the childminder provides interesting activities that engage the children.
- The childminder uses her outside environment regularly to enable children to explore natural or recycled resources that prompt them to use their senses and explore new things.
- The childminder continues her professional development regularly to improve her knowledge and teaching skills, and makes good use of her qualification. This has a positive impact on the children's learning outcomes.
- The childminder has a thorough knowledge of the learning, safeguarding and welfare requirements. She uses her knowledge well to safeguard children effectively and to meet their physical needs to an extremely high standard.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always engage parents in their children's ongoing assessment as well as possible to help them support their children's learning at home and to keep the childminder up-to-date with most recent achievements at home.
- The childminder does not provide children with the best opportunities to help them learn how people differ, such as by encouraging them to look at people of varied backgrounds and abilities in books.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend partnership working with parents to involve them more in their children's ongoing assessment process and to support their children's learning at home
- improve the range of experiences available, such as providing suitable books, to help children understand the differences between people.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection and looked at the range of resources available.
- The inspector sampled a selection of policies and procedures, documents and children's learning files.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children with regard to their health and safety.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

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 strong knowledge of how children learn. She plans activities that encourage children to become independent learners. For example, younger children confidently use craft equipment by themselves. The childminder provides a wide range of good quality, highly stimulating resources, toys and activities so children progress well across all learning areas. There is a good balance between child-led and adult-led learning. Children actively engage in their chosen activities and they express themselves freely. Children enjoy making funny-face plates which they proudly show to the childminder and each other, showing how the childminder raises their self-esteem. The childminder helps children's communication and language develop well because she speaks clearly to the children. Children benefit from long periods of uninterrupted play. The childminder helps children develop the key skills required for future learning such as school.

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

The childminder is friendly and welcoming. She knows the children extremely well, and responds to their emotional needs in a consistent and very caring manner. This means all children are confident and happy, so readily have a go at the experiences provided. Children show exceptional levels of self-control during activities because the childminder uses extremely effective behaviour management procedures. She skilfully reminds children of her expectations in a positive way, such as not throwing toys while indoors. Children develop their physical skills as they enjoy the outside play resources, such as playing with mud. They enjoy regular outings to toddler groups, which promote their social skills successfully.

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

The childminder has addressed the recommendations from her previous inspection well. These have improved the provision for children and the way in which they are safeguarded effectively. For example, the childminder now carries out regular evacuation procedures and risk assessments which involve children in both. Her assessment and planning clearly checks the children's learning and identifies any potential gaps. The childminder works in close partnership with parents by completing a daily care-needs record for each child, and by discussing daily events. The childminder evaluates her provision to identify areas for improvement accurately, and seeks the children's and parents' views to help her do this. The childminder has developed good and effective links with other settings. These ensure children have continuity of care and contribute to their learning. Parents comment very positively on the service the childminder offers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY373886
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	829338
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered with Ofsted in 2008. She lives in Great Chart, near Ashford. The childminder has an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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