

Inspection date	20 March 2015
Previous inspection date	19 August 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		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

- Parents greatly value the flexible and caring service the childminder provides. They are extremely happy and confident that their children have high quality care. This is evident from their comments, and the length of time families remain with the childminder.
- The childminder effectively promotes children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. They are encouraged to take regular physical activities, fresh air and eat healthy food.
- Children experience a wide range of interesting activities. This means children happily engage in play and have fun as they learn.
- The childminder ensures personalised care to value each individual child. Consequently, the childminder supports children's well-being and emotional needs very well.
- The childminder has proactively enhanced her professional development to a good level. She attends local childminder groups to network and share good practice. As a result, she maintains a stimulating learning environment for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The outdoor area has few plants and natural materials. This means children do not have regular opportunities to see growth and decay of plants or explore natural textures outside.
- The childminder does not routinely offer ideas to help parents continue learning activities at home, to enhance and consolidate their child's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities to involve parents in their children's learning and provide them with ideas to enhance their children's learning at home
- enhance the outdoor area so children have opportunities to see growth and decay of plants and explore natural textures outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector and childminder carried out a joint observation and undertook subsequent discussion.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including safeguarding procedures, children's development records and parental feedback.
- The inspector toured areas of the home used for childminding, and discussed safety routines.
- The inspector viewed a wide range of resources provided to promote children's learning and development.

Inspector

Hilary Welland

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides good quality toys and resources that are organised in boxes clearly labelled with words and pictures. This enables children to choose toys and activities by themselves. The childminder encourages children's physical development. The plentiful amount of outdoor play equipment means children enjoy practising their physical skills using the slide, small trampoline and ride-on vehicles. The childminder gets to know each child extremely well. This, combined with her excellent knowledge of child development, means she provides both planned and spontaneous activities which ignite children's interests. As a result, children learn and develop well and make good progress. The childminder effectively supports children's communication and language development. She skilfully takes opportunities in play to include additional, interesting words. This helps extend children's vocabulary as they include new words.

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

Children are extremely happy, settled and secure in the childminder's relaxed and caring environment. This is clear as they sing to themselves while they play, and chatter with the childminder during care routines. The childminder is an excellent role model for children, and nurtures their caring, polite and respectful relationships. This means children's behaviour is very good and they learn to share and get along well with others. The childminder is attentive to the individual needs of each child. As such, children know they can rely on her when necessary, readily coming for her supportive cuddles and reassurance. The childminder encourages children's independence using active praise and well placed resources. For example, by placing a box of tissues where children can reach them to encourage their self-care. As a result, children learn skills that prepare them for future learning, are confident and have good self-esteem.

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

The childminder has excellent understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She has a wide range of robust policies and procedures, which support her good practice which she shares with parents. This helps keep all children safe. The childminder has sound knowledge of the need to work in partnership with parents and professionals from nurseries and schools. This ensures that the childminder and other professionals consistently meet individual children's needs. The childminder involves both parents and children in the evaluation of her provision and strives to make continuous improvements. Since the last inspection, she has improved the monitoring of children's development by making clear assessments of their progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126792
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840582
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1998. She lives with her husband in in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. The childminder offers childcare for most of the year. The childminder has a Diploma in Home Based Childcare at Level 3.

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