

Inspection date	27 March 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 children have close attachments with the nurturing childminder. This helps them to form a strong bond and settle well.
- Children behave well with the childminder because she uses consistent messages to teach children to share toys and show concern for each other.
- The childminder organises a wide range of well-planned activities for the children that support them to make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder has a good knowledge about the children's likes and current interests, which enables her to meet their individual needs.
- The childminder has strong links with the other early years settings that children attend. She has a good understanding of the skills the children need before going to school and she uses this knowledge to effectively prepare them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide opportunities to see words and labels in the indoor and outdoor area to enhance children's early reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide opportunities to see words and labels in the indoor and outdoor area to enhance children's early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and child at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, daily diaries and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's living room and playroom area.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their testimonials and a survey provided by the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder.

Inspector

June Keeler

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans stimulating activities and experiences for children based on their interests and next steps in learning. Therefore, she helps children to make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder has a good relationship with the children's parents. She ensures that they are fully informed about their children's learning, care routines and development. For example, the childminder shares detailed information with the parents through their learning folders and daily diaries. The childminder effectively promotes children's language and communication skills as she explains what she is doing and introduces new vocabulary. She constantly engages children as she plays alongside them, repeating words and modelling language. The childminder provides praise and encouragement helping children practise their newly acquired skills and knowledge. For example, the childminder introduced a new octopus toy and book compact disc which reflected a child's interest in the accompanying song that he already knew.

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

The childminder and her home are warm and welcoming. Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care and show their affection to her and trust in her. The childminder is calm, encouraging and patient, which enhances their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder provides and uses a wide selection of resources and equipment to meet all children's individual needs. She ensures children play safely through providing close supervision and guidance. Children have regular access to the garden area and trips to local parks. As a result, they receive plenty of fresh air and opportunities to be physically active. The childminder encourages the children to become independent. For instance, small children can cut their food and feed themselves at lunchtime.

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

The childminder has a good range of policies, which she shares with parents via her website. Procedures for risk assessments, in and out of the home, are robust and this helps her to ensure that her home is safe and secure. Consequently, children remain as safe as possible. The childminder attends training courses and studies online to help her stay up to date with information. This gives her confidence to complete assessments and discuss them with the parents, which improves the outcomes for children. The childminder undertakes regular evaluations of her practice. She reflects on activities that went well, the activities she would like to introduce and includes feedback from parents. This shows that the childminder is very reflective and committed to maintaining continuous improvement.

The childminder has a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements; this promotes children's safety and well-being.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY456136
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	917037
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives Maidstone, Kent. She operates all year from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The provider receives funding for free early years education for children aged three and four years.

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