

Inspection date	1 April 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		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 childminder organises a wide range of well-planned activities. These hold the children's interests and support them to make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder has created a warm, welcoming environment in which children show they feel safe and secure.
- The children enjoy healthy snacks which promotes their good health. They grow and tend vegetables in the childminder's garden to develop their understanding of where food comes from.
- The childminder is a good role model. She consistently encourages children's understanding of turn taking and good behaviour. As a result, children behave very well and play happily together.
- The childminder has good relationships with parents. She ensures that parents are kept up-to-date about their child's learning, development and care routines.
- The childminder has clear and comprehensive policies and procedures which includes safeguarding and risk assessment. This helps to maintain the smooth running of the service.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not able to fully explore their own ideas through play because some resources stored out of sight.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the use of pictures to enable children to see the wide range of resources available and make choices about what they would like to play with.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation.
- The inspector reviewed the children's assessment records, the childminder's written self-evaluation form, and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through letters left for her to read.
- The inspector checked evidence of childminder's qualifications and suitability.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

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 good understanding of how children learn and the Early Years Foundation Stage. She provides a wide range of activities to promote children's learning and development across all the areas of learning. However, due to space limitations some of these are stored out of sight. Children confidently ask for resources but are not always sure what is available to them because the childminder does not have pictures of the resources stored away. The childminder introduces mathematical concepts in the children's play. For example, the children count the number of chicks on their card and the number of eggs found on an Easter hunt. The childminder knows how to adjust her questions to the children's individual age and ability. For example, in a cooking activity, she encourages problem solving as she asks the children how to crush the crackers and extends younger children's vocabulary by labelling her actions. As a result, children make good progress in their communication and language skills.

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

The children develop a positive relationship with this friendly childminder. They enjoy her consistent reassurance and praise. Children benefit from regular outings to toddler groups, the local park and beach. This enables them to develop their confidence, and physical and social skills. Children understand how to wash their hands correctly and why they need to wash them. The childminder uses this as an additional opportunity for the children to recognise their names as they use their own individual named towels to stop cross contamination. She extends the children's understanding of their own and different cultures as they celebrate and try foods from various festivals. The childminder uses books, stories and teaches children skills that will support them for the move to school.

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

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements. She monitors children's assessment records to ensure they make good progress and develops activities to address any gaps in their learning. Since her previous inspection, the childminder has reviewed her evaluation systems. She is aware of her strengths and what needs to be improved. This is helping her to consistently improve her practices and raise the quality of teaching. The childminder has a secure understanding of safeguarding and the procedure to follow should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. She has a good relationship with staff working in other settings children attend. This helps to maintain continuity of care and learning for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126922
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836190
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1984. She lives in Deal, Kent. The childminder is in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three, and four years old.

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