

Inspection date

10 April 2015

Previous inspection date

12 November 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 knows the children well and has a good knowledge of child development. As a result, she provides children with stimulating resources and activities that take account of their interests and individual learning needs.
- The childminder establishes good relationships with parents and extended families, who greatly value the care she gives to their children. Daily communication and a flexible approach mean that the childminder meets children's individual needs very well.
- The childminder has secure knowledge of safeguarding and child protection issues, and how to promote children's health and safety. This means children are well-protected.
- The childminder promotes positive behaviour, consistently supporting children to remember the simple house rules. As a result, children learn to behave well.
- The childminder has a warm and positive relationship with children. As a result, they settle well and are comfortable and happy in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently share ideas, activities and strategies to help parents extend their children's learning at home.
- There are fewer opportunities for children to see signs, print and familiar words displayed in the childminder's home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise further opportunities to share ideas with parents to extend learning activities between childminder and child's home
- extend children's literacy skills and awareness of print carrying meaning by labelling toy boxes and resources with words and pictures.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents and extended families during the inspection, and by sampling comments within documentation.
- The inspector observed the childminder's practice and interaction with children during play and care routines, throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's 'Learning Journey' assessments, photographic evidence, planning documentation and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder and took account of her verbal evidence and ongoing improvement plans.
- The inspector checked documentation and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder.

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 incorporates learning into fun activities and throughout daily routines. The inclusion of good-quality resources to suit the age range, means that children play happily as they learn. Children extend their skills and physical development by playing with varied toys and equipment. For example, babies kick at the baby gym, and reach out to explore textures on the play mat. Older children kick balls and use plastic tongs to lift objects into a box. The childminder uses outings to encourage children to spot letters, words and numbers in the environment. This supports children's early reading and number skills. For example, a child recognised the beginning letter of his name, and linked the letter of a shop with the name of his childminder. The childminder uses observations and photographs to inform her assessments and planning. This, coupled with knowledge of each child's interests, contributes to ensure that children make good progress in their learning and development. Children learn about different cultures and festivals through stimulating resources and events. For example, they visited London's China Town to experience Chinese New Year celebrations, and grew cress in the shape of a shamrock for St. Patrick's Day.

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

The childminder supports children to keep safe and healthy. Children learn about hygiene; to wash hands before eating and after playing outside, as well as about road safety. The childminder actively supports children to understand forthcoming changes in their lives. This includes helping them to prepare for school or to welcome the arrival of a new baby into their family. As a result, children become emotionally ready for their next stage of learning. Children enjoy a good range of interesting activities within the childminder's home and garden, and on local visits and outings. Children have daily opportunities for fresh air and to develop physical skills, moving in different ways and using resources such as slides and bikes. The childminder supports children's play and learning with praise and encouragement. This means that children are motivated to keep trying and develop good levels of confidence and self-esteem.

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

Keeping children safe is central to the childminder's provision. She undertakes risk assessments in her home, garden and on outings to ensure the environment and resources are safe and suitable for children. The childminder ensures all adults in the household are suitably vetted. She keeps up to date with necessary training and links with other childminders to exchange ideas to continually improve her practice. Where appropriate, the childminder links with parents and other professionals to offer consistency of support to meet children's individual or additional needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125237
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840521
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	12 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives in Kemsing, near Sevenoaks, Kent.

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