

Inspection date	8 April 2015
Previous inspection date	29 June 2011

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 provof children	rision to the well-being	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 use the outdoor space well. They can extend their learning and further develop their understanding of the natural world and the benefits of playing in the fresh air.
- The childminder provides frequent opportunities for children to learn about their local community and places of interest.
- The childminder interacts well with all children. She ensures that she knows about their backgrounds and interests, and this means that she meets their individual needs.
- The children enjoy healthy snacks, drinks and meals. They are learning the benefits of eating balanced and nutritious fresh food.
- The childminder is well organised and has the required documentation in place to ensure that children are safeguarded effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

■ The childminder does not always make the most of play opportunities to extend children's early maths knowledge and understanding.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 ensure that there are more frequent opportunities for children to learn about problem solving through their play experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder that included how she assesses children's abilities and plans for their progress, her self-evaluation process and how she promotes healthy living.
- The inspector observed the children at play and looked at the space, activities, resources and equipment available for their use.
- The inspector sampled the childminder's policies and procedures, discussed these with her and looked at required documents, including those relating to how she safeguards children.

Inspector

Mary Vandepeer

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her good knowledge of children's abilities, interests and stages of development to provide related activities and appropriate resources. Based on their individual starting points, it is clear that children progress well in most areas of learning. The childminder identifies areas that need further development. She promotes children's personal skills and their independence well. The childminder spends all her time with the children and overall she displays good teaching skills that support their play. For example, she is always ready to promote children's early speech development and help them learn new words to extend their vocabularies. The childminder shows a good awareness of the need for children to have the relevant skills for their eventual move to pre-school or school. The childminder ensures that there is time, when children are collected, to discuss their progress and achievements with parents. This ensures that parents are kept up to date with their child's stage of learning and development.

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

The childminder's home is very child-friendly, welcoming and secure. She is natural in her interest in what children enjoy doing and what they say. Children confidently move about the space, especially outdoors, which helps with their physical development and independence skills. She promotes children's self-esteem, confidence and their personal, social and emotional development well. The childminder gives children's well-being and welfare good attention. They clearly show that they feel settled and safe with her. The childminder makes sure that she is a good role model. She teaches children how to share and to respect other people's space and needs. The childminder uses her home and resources well to enhance children's learning and development.

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

The childminder displays a good understanding of her role and responsibilities towards keeping children safe in her care. The childminder has a sound awareness of local safeguarding procedures and knows what to do if she ever has a concern about a child's welfare. The childminder reflects and evaluates her childcare service effectively. She identifies areas to improve and how to make changes where needed. For example, she has provided better storage units for children's activities and resources, so they are more accessible and easy for children to tidy away. The childminder updates her knowledge through support from the local authority childcare coordinators. This means that she has been able to implement changes and provide educational programmes using children's interests. The childminder states that she has worked hard at encouraging parents' involvement. She provides them with more information about their children's ongoing progress and development. This helps to enable children to receive continuity in their care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY319186

Local authority Kent

Inspection number 1010184

Type of provision Childminder

Registration category Childminder

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 5

Number of children on roll 4

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 29 June 2011

Telephone number

The childminder registered in October 2006. She lives in Barming, Maidstone, Kent. The childminder works each weekday, for most of the year.

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