

Inspection date	15 April 2015
Previous inspection date	13 May 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 completes regular risk assessments, with daily visual checks on the premises and resources. She completes detailed checks during outings. This helps minimise any potential risks of harm to children.
- The childminder has thorough knowledge and understanding of safe practices and child protection issues. She attends regular training and has effective policies and procedures to follow. As a result, she helps protect children and keep them safe.
- The childminder works closely with children, encouraging their ideas and views to extend their critical thinking and problem solving. As a result, children make good progress.
- Positive partnerships and effective communication with parents mean children have consistency of care and their needs are met very well.
- The childminder is caring and welcoming, recognising each child as a unique individual. As a result, children are comfortable, happy, and settle well, building close and trusting relationships with the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder works in partnership with other settings that children attend. However, she does not always share children's assessments, when parent consent is given.
- Not all resources and toys are readily accessible and easily identifiable for children to independently access.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop partnerships further with other settings by sharing children's assessment checks, if parent consent available, to consistently support children's progress, learning and development needs
- support children's emerging literacy skills and their independence to choose toys and resources, for example, by labelling storage boxes with words and pictures.

Inspection activities

- The childminder took account of the views of parents, through letters and other written documentation.
- The inspector and childminder jointly observed and discussed children's activities in relation to teaching and learning.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and training, and verified her suitability and that of other household members.
- The inspector spoke with the children and interacted with their play at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector toured the premises used for childminding, both indoors and outdoors.

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 listens attentively to children, supporting their communication and language by encouraging their self-expression and imaginative play. For example, children made a tent into a 'bear cave'. When prompted by discussions about their favourite stories, they adapted their play to include pink princesses. Children benefit from regular trips and outings. They show curiosity about the natural world, enhanced by the childminder encouraging their recall of past events. For example, children remembered how they saw changes to a bramble bush on their walk to school last year. They talked to the childminder about the growth stages of the blackberry. The childminder effectively supports learning and development for the different ages of children. She observes younger children at play to assess their levels of need and interests. The childminder actively involves older children in decisions about activities and experiences. This ensures that children are motivated and interested to play and learn.

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

The childminder encourages children to identify potential hazards as she uses child-friendly visual risk assessments with pictures and simple words. These help remind children how to stay safe in the sun on a trip to the park. As a result, children learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy. The childminder provides children with positive praise, encouragement and reassurance. This contributes to build children's confidence and self-esteem, supporting their well-being. Children use good hygiene routines, such as washing their hands independently before eating. The childminder models polite language and respectful behaviour, with sensitive reminders to children. As a result, children's behaviour is good. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. They take regular exercise as they play on swings and slides in the park, or on the obstacle course at the toddler play gym. The childminder ensures children have independent access to fresh drinking water. She provides nutritious food, such as carrots, apples and houmous.

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

The childminder routinely reflects on her practice. She keeps up to date with information and ideas through training, meeting other childminders and researching relevant articles of interest. This helps her decide on improvements and supports her professional development. The childminder keeps accurate records and information to support children's safety and welfare. She regularly assesses and monitors children's development. This enables her to note and plan for any learning gaps, so children continue to make good progress. The childminder liaises with local schools to ensure that she prepares children well for their next move.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125700
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840539
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996. She lives in Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

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