

Inspection date	15 April 2015
Previous inspection date	9 October 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 is sensitive to their individual needs. As a result, they are happy and settled and have good relationships with each other.
- The childminder organises a broad range of activities and experiences for children to motivate and challenge them.
- The childminder observes and assesses the children's development in order to plan for next steps in their learning. Therefore, children make good progress.
- The childminder encourages children to follow good hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals which promote their good health.
- The childminder understands the importance of working with parents and other agencies to ensure good outcomes for children. She has a range of policies and procedures to maintain the smooth running of her setting and shares these with parents.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures because she keeps her knowledge up to date by attending regular training.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has a wide range of toys and resources for children to play with. However, the storage space indoors does not allow children to choose from all of these independently.
- The childminder does not always record information that parents share with her about their children's learning at home alongside her own observations.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop ways for children to see what resources are available, to increase their ability to make their own choices in their play
- enhance the records of children's progress by including comments from parents about their child's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector looked at written feedback from parents.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about the children and looked at their observation folders.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policy documents.

Inspector

Caroline Gibbons

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a good range of resources to interest and motivate the children. For example, during the inspection, the childminder encouraged children to lie down on a large piece of paper. They laughed excitedly as she drew round them and were eager to see their body outline on the paper. Children are developing an interest in books and print because the childminder reads to them regularly. The childminder promotes their communication development by introducing new words and by reflecting on past experiences. For example, they all talk about a visit to the farm the previous day and recall the antics of the donkey. The childminder uses her regular observations and summaries to plan further activities to challenge children. Therefore, children are progressing well in their learning. The childminder provides photographs regularly to parents to show their child's day and completes contact books for them to take home. However, she does not yet consistently record information shared verbally by parents about their children's development at home in children's learning journals.

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

The children have good relationships with the childminder which helps them to be confident. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles by providing healthy foods and by regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise. The children enjoy regular outings in the local community which helps them to develop relationships with others. The childminder regularly risk assesses her home to identify and minimise possible hazards to children. This ensures that children remain safe in her care. Children behave well because the childminder is a positive role model. She encourages children to treat each other respectfully and to follow the house rules. The childminder encourages children to be independent with their self-care routines. This helps to prepare them for their move to school.

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

The childminder is committed to providing a quality service and has updated her childcare qualification since her last inspection. The childminder continually reflects on her practice and has met the recommendations from her previous inspection. She seeks the views of parents and children when looking to enhance her provision further. The childminder keeps up-to-date with current early year's practices by attending training and by working closely with other childminders. This helps her to provide children with new experiences and maintain her good standard of teaching. Therefore, children make good progress in relation to their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125649
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836168
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	9 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1989 and lives in Dartford, Kent. She provides flexible childcare from 7am until 6pm. The childminder is able to accept funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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