

Inspection date	17 April 2015
Previous inspection date	4 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder provides the children with an extremely engaging and stimulating environment, which is based on their interests and stage of development.
- The childminder has highly effective partnerships with parents, other providers and professionals to ensure individual children's needs are exceptionally well met.
- The childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of how to safeguard and protect children, ensuring their safety is promoted at all times. She competently teaches children how to identify and manage risks for themselves.
- The childminder's quality of teaching is outstanding. She effectively uses accurate observations and assessments of children's progress to plan and provide challenging activities. As a result, children make significant progress in their learning.
- The childminder chats away with the children, providing them with opportunities to hear new words and extend their vocabulary. Consequently, children make outstanding progress in their communication and language development.
- All children are busy and extremely happy in the childminder's care. They demonstrate that they feel very safe in the environment as they explore, knowing that the childminder is close by for a reassuring cuddle.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the opportunities children have to practise their early writing skills within everyday activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about her evaluation of the provision.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children, in relation to their health and safety.
- The inspector read comments from parent questionnaires to take account of their views of the service they receive.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including records of children's learning and development.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides the children with a wealth of opportunities to investigate the home environment. She extends their learning by encouraging them to make informed choices in their play. Children use photo cards to choose resources that are not immediately available. The childminder's highly impressive monitoring procedures ensure that all children receive the support they need to make outstanding progress from their initial starting points. The childminder works very closely with parents to ensure children who are learning English as an additional language see an environment rich in print, with signs in dual languages. This develops their communication and language skills, in addition to developing a strong sense of self. She does not, however, take all opportunities to encourage children to practise writing. The childminder expanded children's knowledge as they predicted what might happen when they added water to different materials, to learn about the world around them. As a result of the childminder's skilful questioning and the quality of teaching, children receive numerous opportunities to play and explore.

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

The childminder has highly impressive settling- in procedures, which enable the children to become confident and develop strong bonds with her. The childminder has consistent rules and boundaries. She provides children with opportunities to share and take turns with resources, for example, when playing card pairs games. The childminder makes effective use of these activities to extend further the children's learning, as they discuss the characters on the cards and count to see who has won. The children acquire new skills to support their personal, social and emotional development. The childminder teaches them how to have a healthy lifestyle. They have daily opportunities to play and explore in the outdoor environment, and talk about what makes a healthy diet. The children enjoy collecting shells at the beach, as well as visiting the numerous parks and attractions in the area. The childminder is supporting the children exceptionally well to learn about their local community. The childminder has fostered outstanding relationships with other professionals to support all children and their families, ensuring that they are very well supported with the next stage in their lives.

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

The childminder has an excellent understanding of the safeguarding procedures and her responsibility to protect children. This helps to fully support children's welfare, health and safety. She makes good use of her training and is highly motivated and exceptionally committed to the improvement of her setting. The childminder engages parents in the process by sending out questionnaires. Parents comment that they are very happy with the service they receive and with the time the childminder spends giving them daily updates.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125985
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840553
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1980 and lives in Ramsgate, Kent. She is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-olds. The childminder supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language. She holds a formal childcare qualification at level 3.

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