

Inspection date	21 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 has robust risk assessments, both within her home and on outings. This helps to minimise risk and keep children safe, on the premises and elsewhere.
- The childminder keeps accurate records, and implements a good range of policies and procedures. This benefits children and their families by guiding the childminder to ensure a consistent and good quality provision.
- The childminder effectively monitors children's progress and implements strategies to help close any gaps in children's learning. She works in partnership with parents and other professionals to support individual children including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The childminder is warm and caring, and the environment homely and well-resourced. As a result, children are happy, comfortable and settle well.
- The childminder skilfully encourages children's independence skills. They help to cut up their own food and learn how to put on their shoes. This supports children to develop confidence in their abilities and prepares them well for school.
- Since the last inspection, the childminder has improved children's understanding of diversity. She provides exciting experiences that provoke discussion and exploration of different customs. Children have shared Anzac biscuits on Australian day and observed Hindu traditions at an engagement party.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not display labels and print in the home and garden. This hinders children's ability to recognise familiar words to promote their early reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's literacy skills, by adding labels to the environment so children can recognise familiar words and signs, such as the resources and their own names.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder about her childcare practice and knowledge of safeguarding children.
- The inspector sampled documents, including the childminder's policies and procedures, and children's learning and development records.
- The inspector took account of parents' written views and considered these.
- The inspector toured the premises used for childminding, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector observed the childminder's practice and interaction with children.

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's has a good knowledge of each child and a sound understanding of child development. She makes effective observations and assessments that lead to planning age appropriate and interesting activities for children. Children make good progress in their learning and in readiness for school. The childminder skilfully interacts and describes children's play, adding extra words to their vocabulary and asking questions to promote their language development. For example, she described the texture of play dough introducing the word squishy. The childminder skilfully incorporates mathematical development during play and care routines. For instance, she helped children learn to count claps as they danced to music and the amount of strawberries they had at snack. The childminder provides a variety of good quality resources to stimulate children's role play. Children play imaginatively expressing themselves in make believe play.

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

The childminder promotes a healthy lifestyle. She encourages children to take exercise, playing in the park or at the soft play centre. She supports them to understand the need for good hygiene, for example, wiping their noses and disposing of tissues in the bin. The childminder reminds children to drink plenty of water and models this herself. Children are motivated to eat healthy food by learning where their food comes from. They grow vegetables in the garden and visit the local fruit farm to pick fruit. The childminder has effective strategies to promote positive behaviour and shares these with parents. This supports a consistent approach for children between home and the setting. The childminder encourages children with praise and positive expressions. This helps build children's confidence to try activities and to persevere with refining a new skill.

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

The childminder has sound understanding of safeguarding children and child protection, and knows the correct procedures to report any concerns. As a result, she knows how to protect children's welfare. The childminder networks with other childminders to establish ideas for best practice and obtains parental views through questionnaires. She uses these ideas to make continuous improvements to her provision. The childminder has good relationship with parents. They comment that they are very happy with their children's care and are encouraged by the childminder to extend children's learning at home. The childminder supports her knowledge and skills through continuous professional development. She regularly accesses extra training opportunities. The childminder has used new techniques from recent training, which has had a positive impact for children's communication and language development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125488
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836165
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She works Monday to Friday for most of the year. The childminder has an early years qualification at level 3. She can receive funding for free early education for children aged three and four years.

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