

Inspection date	23 April 2015
Previous inspection date	21 October 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 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 excellent relationships with parents. She completes home visits and encourages parents to share developmental and care information about their children. This helps her to provide continuity of care for all children.
- The childminder's home has spacious and welcoming areas indoors and outside. Children use the well-equipped garden daily, which supports their health and physical development well.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of how children learn and develop and tailors activities very well to children's individual learning needs. This means all children make good progress.
- The childminder has established effective links with other professionals and settings. She shares information about children's learning well so children receive a continuous learning experience between settings.
- The childminder is a good role model to children. She promotes positive relationships and helps them to understand how to share resources and comfort one another. This means children behave well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always have free access to a wide range of books to promote their interest in reading and looking at books further.
- The childminder provides few natural resources for children to explore and investigate indoors.

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 access to a wide range of books to encourage their early reading skills
- develop the range of indoor natural play resources to encourage children's curiosity and to promote their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities and discussed these with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including children's records, risk assessments, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed the childminders self-evaluation and her plans to develop her service.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her assistant and their qualifications.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. The childminder has a firm knowledge of the learning and development requirements, which helps her to support children's learning effectively. She places a strong emphasis on planning and observation to ensure she accurately identifies children's next steps in learning. The childminder provides interesting activities for children, such as taking them to the local woods to make dens. She models language to children effectively, naming items as they play to develop their understanding and use of words. In addition, the childminder uses signing to further support children's understanding and communication skills. Children attend toddler groups, which the childminder chooses carefully to meet their specific needs and learning requirements. The childminder supports children's mathematical development well by helping them to count during play.

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

The childminder supports young children's understanding of self-care routines effectively. For example, she helps babies to wash their hands with running water as part of their nappy changing routine. The childminder ensures every child develops a strong sense of belonging, which supports their personal, social and emotional development. For example, she provides them with a personal box to keep their own belongings and toys to access when needed. Children develop good independence skills as the childminder encourages them to try and complete tasks for themselves, such as put on their own shoes. This helps children learn valuable skills in preparation for their move to school. The childminder sits and talks with children at mealtimes, which promotes their social skills well.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of how to safeguard children. She shares all relevant knowledge and information with her assistant. As a result, her assistant understands their role and responsibilities and receives ongoing support. The childminder shows a strong commitment to her professional development and attends regular training. She uses this knowledge to refine her already good practice and develop her policies. For example, the childminder recently completed further training on the Early Years Foundation Stage to keep her knowledge of the requirements up-to-date. She reflects on her practice regularly and quickly identifies areas to improve. For example, the childminder improved the quality of tracking children's progress by making changes to the development records she started to use. As a result, the childminder monitors children's learning and development closely. This helps her to quickly identify when children need additional support or further challenge.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427575
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	823333
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Kingsdown near Deal, Kent. She offers her childminder service on weekdays from 7.15am to 6.30pm, all year round except for family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years degree and works with an assistant.

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