

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 May 2015

Previous inspection date

10 March 2010

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

- Children have access to a wide range of good quality resources and toys, which effectively cover all areas of learning and development. Consequently, children make good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder and her assistant demonstrate a good commitment to promoting their knowledge and skills by updating their training. For example, the childminder has completed a Level 3 course and feels this has impacted greatly on her understanding of how children learn and develop, and has helped her understand the requirements.
- The childminder and her assistant form warm, loving and caring attachments to the children. Children confidently approach them for cuddles, which consistently promotes their emotional security.
- Care practices and daily routines effectively promote individual children's needs very well. This ensures children's self-esteem is respected at all times.
- The childminder and her assistant frequently praise children's efforts during activities. This helps them to become confident and motivated learners as they play and explore.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always share a regular two-way flow of information with parents, regarding their children's learning while at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further promote partnership working with parents by sharing more information from home, to help contribute to children's future learning goals.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder, the childminder's assistant and children, at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a selection of written parents' questionnaire comments and feedback.
- The inspector viewed a selection of documentation, including children's progress folders, assessment and planning, and safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector sampled a selection of children's learning journey records and planning documentation.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder and her assistant have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They plan interesting age-appropriate activities to promote all areas of learning. Children enjoy playing with bubbles, excitedly chasing and popping them. The childminder introduces mathematical language to compare the sizes of the bubbles, such as bigger and smaller. This effectively promotes children's mathematical knowledge and skills. Children confidently and independently select toys from an assortment of easily accessible storage boxes. They enjoy making marks and shapes on paper and the chalkboard. This positively supports early writing skills, which are essential for nursery and school. Children learn about different cultures while playing with multi-cultural resources. This positively promotes their understanding of the differences between other children and people. Parents are regularly kept up-to-date of their children's progress.

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

The childminder's home is very welcoming and warm. The childminder and her assistant know individual children's preferences very well. Consequently, children are happy and settled. They encourage children to freely express themselves. For example, a younger child shared a large fluffy white hair wig with other children and the childminder. They laughed and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. This helps children develop good imagination skills. Children effectively learn about healthy lifestyles. For example, they grow their own vegetables, enjoy home-cooked food and choose healthy snacks. Children are very active learners. They independently use the outdoor play equipment using good control. This effectively supports their physical development skills. Children's behaviour is very good because they learn effective boundaries. The childminder and her assistant manage age-related issues efficiently using good distraction methods. This helps to ensure they fully support all children's individual emotional needs.

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

The childminder and her assistant have a good knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. This effectively supports children's health and safety needs. Children practise regular fire-drills, which help promote their safety awareness skills. The childminder regularly reflects on her practice and that of her assistant. She seeks the views of parents and children to identify areas for improvement. This ensures children receive consistent, quality care. The childminder has built effective partnerships with parents and other settings. This effectively promotes a shared learning approach and continuity of care. The childminder regularly reviews the children's progress to help her identify any gaps in their learning and how she will address these. Parents make very positive comments regarding the care and learning the childminder offers their children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399567
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	830977
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives in Woodnesborough, near Sandwich, Kent. The childminder offers care all day, Monday to Friday. The childminder works with an assistant and both have an appropriate Level 3 qualification. The childminder is also a registered children's nurse.

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