

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 May 2015

Previous inspection date

22 December 2009

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 is extremely well organised and has in place excellent systems to monitor children's development. This enables all children are making outstanding progress in their learning.
- The childminder has exceptionally close links with other professionals, which helps to ensure that children receive an excellent continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder is dedicated to improving her own practice and attends all available training to further develop her already excellent skills and knowledge. Opportunities to complete training online are not always fully utilised to continually improve the already high-quality practice.
- The childminder has an extensive knowledge of safeguarding and prioritises keeping the children safe.
- The childminder works extremely well with her co-minder to provide the children with a welcoming and loving home-like environment, where they can explore and interact with friends safely.
- The childminder is highly skilled at supporting the children to become independent learners, who are eager to help and take charge of their own well-being.
- The childminder is highly motivated and exceptionally committed to the improvement of her setting. She fully engages parents in the process by obtaining their views on the service she provides.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen confidence in using new technology to further enhance already outstanding knowledge and skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a tour of the areas used for childminding, in relation to health and safety.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including the safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she works with her co-minder to move her practice forward.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder on her co-minder.
- The inspector read letters of recommendation to obtain the views of parents about the service they receive.

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 an excellent educational programme full of exciting activities based on their interests and stage of development. For example, children explore mixing colours as they paint pictures of tulips. The childminder expertly extends the children's learning further as they match the cut out shapes of the petals onto their pictures. The childminder makes outstanding use of creative activities to incorporate mathematical language. The children enjoy a cuddle as they sit on the settee to have their favourite story read. They chatter to the childminder and predict what will happen next. The childminder effectively engages babies in story time, as she quickly offers them a book to hold to keep them involved. As a result of the childminder's skilful questioning and the quality teaching, children receive numerous opportunities to develop their communication and language skills. She provides the children with an excellent range of opportunities to develop an interest in literacy as they use chalk on boards and compile shopping lists to practise their early writing skills.

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

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. The children develop their confidence and self-reliance as the childminder teaches them how to use the slide independently. Mealtimes are a social occasion where the childminder sits with the children and teaches them about a healthy diet. She assists them to learn new skills, such as holding the grapes still while they practise cutting. The childminder provides the children with daily opportunities to go out in the fresh air. They particularly enjoy going to the local play parks, woodlands and beach to see what they can find and collect. The childminder provides the children with a multitude of activities to support their physical development. She demonstrates an excellent understanding of the importance of helping children exploring their local community and the world around them. As a result of the childminder's quality teaching, the children have outstanding opportunities to learn about a healthy lifestyle.

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

The childminder very confidently meets the safeguarding, learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has an excellent understanding of child protection and works in partnership with her co-minder to provide a continuity of care and learning for all children. Parents comment that they love all the fun activities the children get to do.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126660
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1007704
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	22 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Herne Bay, Kent. She works with her husband who is also a childminder. The childminder holds a BEd (hons) degree in early education with Qualified Teacher Status.

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