

Childminder Report

Inspection date	20 May 2015
Previous inspection date	18 July 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 demonstrates a good knowledge and understanding of child protection and safeguarding procedures to ensure she keeps children safe at all times.
- The childminder and her co-childminder form a strong team. They support their assistant and are committed to improving their practice by attending relevant training. Consequently, this improves outcomes for all children.
- The childminder provides a range of healthy snacks and nutritious home-made meals that children enjoy. She uses mealtimes to promote children's good health by teaching them about a healthy diet.
- The childminder provides a clean, homely and welcoming environment, where children feel safe and secure, and they learn through engaging in interesting play activities.
- When talking to children, the childminder introduces new vocabulary and reinforces words with actions. This positively extends children's communication and language development.
- The childminder effectively monitors children's progress. She has a good knowledge of the children's interests and stages of development, which she uses to plan activities that challenge them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully involve parents in contributing towards their child's learning at the setting or in sharing learning at home. Likewise the childminder does not always gain the views of parents on the service they receive, to support her in deciding how to improve her practice most effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen arrangements for involving parents more in evaluating the quality of the provision and sharing their child's learning in the setting and at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a tour of the areas used for childminding and checked health and safety arrangements.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including safeguarding policies and procedures, and children's computerised records.
- The inspector read letters of recommendation and spoke to parents to obtain their views on the service they receive.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder on her co-childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides the children with a good range of activities and resources that help them make good progress in their learning. The childminder skilfully uses the children's particular interests to engage them with activities. At the inspection, she added small world toys to the cornflour activity to encourage all children to join in. Children made patterns in the cornflour, which encouraged their early writing skills. The childminder further supported the children to develop their interest in literacy as they explored the interesting selection of books. Children engaged in role play as they weighed out potatoes and carrots and watched the hand on the scales move around. The childminder made effective use of these experiences by introducing mathematical language. Consequently, the childminder prepares the children well for the next stage in their learning.

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

The childminder implements strong settling-in procedures. These enable the children to become confident and develop strong bonds with her. The childminder works closely with parents to gather the information she needs to meet children's individual routines and needs. The childminder constantly praises children's achievements and encourages them to do well. Children's behaviour is good. The childminder makes good use of outdoors and her local environment. She helps children to develop healthy lifestyles and learn about the world and the local community in which they live. The children benefit from frequent trips to local attractions, where they meet up with friends and develop their social skills.

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

The childminder confidently meets the safeguarding and learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She regularly reflects on her practice and identifies areas for further development. She keeps parents up to date with events and care routines through daily discussions and written information. She has introduced a secure computerised monitoring system to enable parents to see their children's progress records whenever they want to. The childminder has established strong links with local school and nurseries. She demonstrates a commitment to provide continuity of care and extend the learning experiences for all children. Parents' comments are all positive, illustrating that they appreciate the professional service they receive, and they are reassured to know their child is safe and happy in her care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY224805
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	837061
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 July 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in Canterbury, Kent. She works with her co-childminder and an assistant. The childminder is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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