

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

29 September 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

- The childminder's home is warm and welcoming. She is kind and caring and a good role model. Consequently, children feel secure and happy. This effectively supports their personal, social and emotional development.
- The childminder frequently attends training courses and demonstrates a good commitment to promoting her knowledge and skills. This continuously improves all children's learning experiences. Furthermore, she regularly evaluates her practice, seeking the views and opinions of parents and children to set herself challenging targets in order to improve her practice.
- The childminder is currently studying for a qualification in sign language, which she is teaching to the children. Consequently, children routinely use signing to communicate, which is especially useful for younger children.
- Children are confident and motivated learners because the childminder frequently praises and encourages their efforts during activities.
- The childminder has worked hard to implement the recommendations made during her last inspection. Consequently, children now have access to a wide range of toys and activities that reflect different cultures and people with differences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always promote the children's understanding of natural and sensory exploration experiences in the outdoor environment.
- The childminder has secure communication links with other early years settings children attend. However, she does not share developmental information frequently enough to further support consistency in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the outside learning environment further to promote the children's understanding of natural and sensory experiences while they play and explore
- extend partnership working with other settings by regularly sharing knowledge and information about children's learning and development to promote continuity of care.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection at appropriate times.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the home that the childminder uses and discussed how she risk assessed the home.
- The inspector read letters parents had kindly written to take account of their views.
- The inspector sampled a selection of children's assessment records, planning documentation, self-evaluation, and policies and procedures.

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 provides a wide range of resources, toys and activities that cover the areas of learning. She uses her good knowledge of individual children's abilities to help her plan interesting learning experiences for them. This effectively supports their different stages of learning. As such, children make good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. Children enjoy listening to stories, which they joyfully participate in using their early communication sounds. This positively strengthens their communication and language skills. Children happily play for extended periods of time, such as when 'posting' shapes. Consequently, they develop the concentration skills required for future learning. The childminder plans frequent outings for the children. She asks them where they would like to visit and has devised a photographic album for them to choose from. This helps children learn about the world around them and positively supports their emotional development as they confidently make their own choices and decisions.

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

Children develop close relationships with the childminder and strong bonds are evident. Children readily approach the childminder for cuddles and for reassurance. This helps them feel safe and secure. The childminder uses child-friendly house rules to help them understand how to keep themselves safe. They participate in regular fire evacuation procedures and attend fire safety workshops. Consequently all children have a good understanding of how to respond to an emergency. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. They participate in regular physical exercise as they play at the park or as they explore the sensory lights and fibre optic waterfall. Children wash their hands before eating and enjoy fruit snacks. Care routines, such as nappy changing, are undertaken privately. This ensures that children's dignity and self-esteem is respected.

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

The childminder has a good working knowledge of the safeguarding, child protection and welfare requirements. She has a detailed range of policies and procedures that she updates regularly and shares with parents. The childminder has robust, detailed and thorough procedures to plan, assess and record the children's progress. She carries out very good observations and accurate assessments of the children's development, clearly identifying their next steps in learning. She regularly shares children's folders with parents. Furthermore, the childminder has good working partnerships and procedures to include parents in their children's learning. This means children experience a consistent approach. Parents make very positive comments regarding the childminder's practice and that they are extremely happy with the care their children receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY389612
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	830222
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives in Wye, Kent. The childminder offers care all day, Monday to Friday, throughout much of the year. The childminder has an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
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