

Childminder Report

Inspection date

10 June 2015

Previous inspection date

7 November 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 provides a stimulating environment where children have space to spread out and play with the interesting range of resources on offer.
- Children are very happy and content with the childminder. They clearly trust her and enjoy her interaction with them in their play and learning, which boosts their confidence.
- The childminder has improved her methods of assessment through attending a training course. This has helped her clearly identify children's interests and next stages of development in order to plan for their individual learning needs.
- The childminder introduces new vocabulary and reinforces words with actions, to extend children's communication and language development.
- The childminder has a thorough knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She is clear about her role in keeping children safe at all times.
- The childminder understands the importance of providing children with daily opportunities to exercise in the fresh air. She makes good use of the allotment and local parks, to support the children to learn about how to have a healthy lifestyle.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make effective use of mealtimes to promote children's understanding of early mathematical language.
- The childminder misses some opportunities for children to develop their early writing skills during everyday activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve opportunities for children to recognise numbers and shapes in everyday activities
- review the organisation of resources so children are able to practise their early writing skills while engaging in a variety of activities and daily routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed with the childminder various aspects of children's care, and the childminder's understanding of how children learn and develop.
- Parents' feedback was sampled through letters of recommendation and questionnaires.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about children's activities and their progress.
- The inspector discussed risk assessments with the childminder and inspected all areas of the premises.
- The inspector looked at children's learning journeys, including assessment documents and next steps, and some policies and procedures, including the safeguarding policy.

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 has a good understanding of the areas of learning and development. She provides the children with good quality resources which immediately engage and excite them. The childminder has extensive knowledge of the individual stages of development of all the children in her care. She reads the children's favourite books to them and actively encourages them to get involved and learn new words. Therefore, children develop a strong interest in literacy. There is a good balance of both adult-led and child-initiated activities. The childminder makes good use of children's emerging interests to support their learning. The childminder encourages children to predict outcomes, for example, as they investigated which objects would stick to the magnet. The childminder makes good use of skilful questioning to extend children's learning. Children routinely meet with friends at toddler groups to support their personal, social and emotional development. Children make good progress from their initial starting points as a result of the quality of teaching they receive from the childminder.

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

Children move around the childminder's home knowledgeably, making their own decisions about what they do and play with. As a result, children are confident explorers and learners, with good levels of self-esteem. The childminder has built strong relationships with parents, who value the daily information they receive. She talks to children about the foods that they like and the importance of having a healthy diet. The childminder praises children for being kind to their friends and encourages them to share and take turns. Consequently, the children's behaviour is very good. Children are learning important skills for the future about keeping healthy and safe. Subsequently, they are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and move on to school.

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

The childminder has a good understanding about child protection and the importance of keeping children safe when in her home and on outings. She ensures the premises are secure when children are present and carries out thorough risk assessments. The childminder reflects on her practice and meets regularly with other early years professionals. She improves her knowledge and skills through reading relevant publications and completing online training. The childminder fosters strong links with other agencies to support children and their families. She has positive relationships with parents and obtains their views about the service she provides, to help her improve her practice further. Letters parents have written show that they are very happy with the care and opportunities made available to their children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY357719
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	835374
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Faversham, Kent. The childminder is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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