

Childminder Report

Inspection date	17 June 2015
Previous inspection date	8 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 has a secure understanding of how children learn and develop. She successfully adapts activities according to children's individual needs. This ensures all children make good progress in their learning, in relation to their starting points.
- Children are physically active learners. They confidently use the outdoor resources with good coordination and control. Children develop a good understanding of how to keep fit and healthy.
- The childminder prepares children well for changes in their lives, such as starting nursery or school. She maintains good working partnerships with these settings, which effectively support children's needs.
- The childminder attends training courses and demonstrates a positive commitment to improving her knowledge and skills. She frequently reads interesting and relevant articles. This positively impacts on the quality of her practice and, therefore, children's learning experiences.
- Children independently explore their learning environment. They confidently express their opinions and views. Consequently, they develop good social and self-awareness skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always effectively promote the use of mathematics during some activities. For example, by encouraging children to count beyond 10, or learning 'one more' or 'one less' than a given number.
- The childminder does not fully promote children's understanding of the natural world in the outdoor environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to develop their mathematical language skills and understanding
- support children's development further in the outdoor learning environment to help promote their curiosity of natural resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed the children's assessment records, planning documentation, self-evaluation, and safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views and comments written by parents and other local settings.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

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 and toys for children that promote children's learning across all areas. Children enjoyed matching different patterned socks and shoes. Children find learning fun; for example, they laughed with each other as they tried on different shoes and paraded around the room. The childminder displays a good balance between planned activities and child-led play. Children independently draw around dotted circle shapes of varying sizes. They confidently use pens and pencils, with good control. They are beginning to write their names, saying the letter sounds. This positively promotes their early writing and reading skills, which are essential for future learning. The childminder regularly rotates her toys. This ensures children benefit from a variety of different learning opportunities. Children learn about the needs of others, such as exploring how some people paint with their mouths and feet. This effectively teaches them about people with different needs to their own.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the welfare and safeguarding requirements. She frequently practises emergency evacuations drills with children and risk assesses her home. This helps keep children safe. The childminder has a good knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures. This means she knows what to do if she has any concerns about children's well-being. Children enjoy frequent outings to local attractions, such as local farms and the beach. This helps children explore their local community. Children manage their feelings well. The childminder reminds children of their manners, such as saying 'please' and 'thank you'. This positively reinforces their social skills. Children are affectionate with each other and with the childminder. Close attachments and relationships are evident, which positively support children's emotional well-being. Children confidently and independently manage their own care needs.

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

The childminder has made successful improvements. She frequently monitors the children's progress to help identify and address any gaps in their learning. This ensures all children make continuous progress. Parents regularly review their children's learning folders and share information from home with the childminder. This helps ensure children receive consistent care. The childminder regularly evaluates her practice, seeking the views of parents and children to identify areas of improvement and development. This ensures she offers children an effective learning environment. Parents comment positively about the childminder and the good quality care their children receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360662
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	835439
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Kennington, Kent. The childminder offers care all day from Monday to Friday for most of the year. The childminder has an appropriate early years Level 3 qualification.

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