

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 June 2015

Previous inspection date

17 August 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		Outstanding	1
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 works especially well with his co-childminder. They provide a very calm and caring atmosphere. The childminder is an excellent role model and listens to the children's views. This positively promotes their emotional well-being exceptionally well.
- Children enjoy an inspirational outdoor learning environment that allows them to experience risk and challenge in their play. This effectively promotes their understanding of how to manage their own safety needs while being supported by the childminder.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. He provides a vast range of resources and toys that support all age groups. Consequently, children make good progress in all developmental areas.
- The childminder regularly evaluates his practice, working closely with his co-childminder to promote consistency and quality. He asks parents and children for their views. and reads and reflects on interesting and relevant articles. This helps him to identify areas for improvement and update his knowledge and skills, to offer learning experiences that effectively build on children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always fully develop the children's counting and sequencing skills during some activities.
- The childminder does not always encourage parents to share information about their children's learning from home, to ensure consistency in children's learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- expand on opportunities for children to develop their counting and sequencing skills during activities
- encourage parents to share their child's learning from home, and regularly contribute to their children's developmental files.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder, his co-childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and listened to their views.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector viewed areas of the home used by the childminder in regard to the children's health and safety.

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 plans activities that effectively develop children's imagination skills. They hunt for treasure and excitedly find the hidden objects. The childminder has made good improvements since his last inspection, increasing the opportunities for children to self-choose their own activities and toys. Children confidently use the play areas and independently access the resources. This is because the learning environment is very child-friendly. Children learn good problem-solving skills and discuss whether their treasure objects will float or sink, while enjoying water play. Furthermore, children display good technology skills. This helps them develop the skills required for future learning, such as school. The childminder effectively promotes communication and language development by pronouncing his words clearly. He repeats the children's mispronounced words back to them, which positively expands and develops their language skills.

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

The childminder and his co-childminder, offer an extremely welcoming and warm environment. The childminder follows outstanding procedures that fully support the children's well-being. They confidently and frequently approach the childminder for reassurance and for hugs. Close and loving attachments are evident. Children freely express themselves and display excellent creative skills. They excitedly and happily explore the inspirational outside learning area, which consistently motivates them to learn. This specifically encourages children to develop healthy physical lifestyle choices. In conjunction with this, the childminder has a very strong knowledge of how to promote excellent eating routines. Children of all ages sit at the table and socialise together. They know to wash their hands before eating and thoroughly enjoy the nutritionally balanced meals. They eagerly try new fruits, which promotes extremely good eating habits.

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

The childminder understands the safeguarding and welfare requirements. He has a good understanding of child protection issues and discusses e-safety with children. This helps them understand the importance of keeping themselves safe when using technological resources. The childminder frequently risk assesses his home and keeps consistent records. Children practise regular evacuation procedures with him so they know what to do if there was an emergency. Assessment and planning records clearly evaluate children's development, which highlight any gaps in their learning. This helps the childminder target those areas, working in partnership with others, where necessary. This ensures children have a challenging range of activities. Parents regularly review their children's learning files. They comment positively about the childminder's practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY424893
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	986638
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	17 August 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011. He lives in Penenden Heath, Maidstone, Kent. The childminder offers care all day, Monday to Friday, for most of the year. He works with a co-childminder.

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