

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 July 2015

Previous inspection date

25 February 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

- Partnerships with parents are strong due to the regular exchange of information both verbally and in writing. The childminder and parents regularly share information about children's progress, which helps promote continuity in children's learning at home and in the setting.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is a positive role model; she sets clear rules and boundaries, which support children to share and take turns.
- The childminder is effective in identifying her strengths and areas to improve. She evaluates her provision and obtains the views of parents to support her to move her practice forward.
- The childminder has a good understanding of child protection, which ensures that she is aware of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns.
- The childminder carries out rigorous risk assessments to identify potential hazards in the environment. Therefore, she keeps children safe and secure at all times.
- Relationships with other professionals are good. This helps the childminder to provide a consistent approach to supporting children's learning and welfare needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not always see words in the environment to help develop their further understanding of what print means.
- The childminder does not always organise her resources to help children make their own choices more easily.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities to support children to understand what words are
- review the organisation of resources so children have opportunities to make further choices about their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled some documentation as part of the inspection process, including the childminder's safeguarding policy and children's assessment folders.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the observation of children's play and learning.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with the children.
- The inspector discussed risk assessments with the childminder and inspected the areas of the home used by the children.

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 uses observations of children to identify their achievements and what they need to learn next. She plans a range of interesting activities that support children to be active learners. The childminder extends children's early mathematical skills; for instance, they count blocks as they build towers. Children enjoy frequent outings to places of interest and local parks. As a result, they practise their physical skills and learn about the world around them. Children choose their favourite story to have read and the childminder encourages them to predict what will happen next. The childminder makes good use of spontaneous experiences to enrich children's learning. For example, children point to the teeth on a dinosaur and the discussions that follow help them understand the importance of cleaning their teeth. Children extend their vocabulary and language skills well as the childminder talks to them as they play. Younger children respond to the childminder with lots of chatter and smiles. Consequently, all children make good progress from their initial starting points because of the effective quality of teaching. The childminder helps children to learn a broad range of skills, which prepares them well for their move to school.

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

The childminder works closely with parents to help children settle well. She gathers information that enables her to get to know children's routines and meet their individual needs effectively. Children form positive emotional bonds with the childminder. They approach her for cuddles and help, showing that they feel safe when with her. Children develop good social skills as they regularly meet up with other children. The childminder works well with parents to encourage children to try new foods and she provides nutritious home cooked meals that support healthy eating. They grow fruit and vegetables in the garden, which further helps them develop an understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Children develop good self-help skills as the childminder encourages them to do things for themselves. Older children develop confidence in managing their personal care needs as they visit the toilet and wash their hands independently.

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

The childminder is committed to updating her training, which helps develop her practice to benefit the children's learning and care needs further. She is currently working towards gaining a recognised qualification. The childminder meets with other professionals to share good practice. This shows a strong commitment to continuing to improve outcomes for children. The childminder uses her assessment methods effectively to monitor children's progress accurately. This helps her to identify and plan for any specific learning needs they may have.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY391975
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	830384
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Sittingbourne, Kent. She is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for three- and four-year-old children. The childminder offers her service on weekdays for most of the year.

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