

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 July 2015

Previous inspection date

2 December 2008

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 key-person system is effective in helping children to settle and form secure attachments with the childminder.
- The childminder works very well with her co-childminder and they supervise the children effectively. This enables children to seek support when they want or require it.
- The childminder uses and plans the space in her home effectively. Children benefit from the stimulating environment, where they make good progress in their development.
- The childminder provides a good foundation for children to develop in their independence. Therefore, children develop useful skills and knowledge that help them prepare for future learning and the next stage in their lives.
- Children behave very well. The childminder involves them in the routines of the provision, which helps support children's awareness of managing their own behaviour.
- The childminder uses the local and wider community to promote children's understanding of their world and support their development in other learning areas.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always fully engage parents in contributing information on their children's achievements at home to strengthen children's learning further.
- Children do not always benefit from opportunities to learn more about the natural world and caring for the environment, for example, planting, growing and gathering fruits and vegetables for eating.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the already good partnerships with parents by encouraging them to contribute information to children's progress records on what they achieve at home
- improve children's learning about the natural world and helping the environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled a selection of paperwork, including children's progress records.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at suitable times during the inspection.

Inspector

Mary Vandepeer

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 good range of activities to help promote children's development in all areas of learning. She provides a variety of resources which she makes sure are accessible to children of all ages. This means that they can make choices about their play. The childminder spends a lot of time with the children, playing, talking and laughing with them. Children enjoy building towers with different sized blocks, seeing how tall they can make them before they fall down. At the same time the pictures on the blocks promote their letter and number recognition. Role play features strongly as children act out everyday routines and scenarios, such as going shopping. This also means children can learn to use their imagination and solve simple problems. Children enjoy stories being read to them and singing popular rhymes together, promoting their speaking and listening skills.

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

Children settle easily with the childminder and she gives them good attention when they start. This means she gets to know what they like to do and what they need by way of support. They clearly feel safe and secure at the childminder's. She helps encourage them in their self-care skills and praises them when they achieve what they want. Parents provide packed meals and the childminder gives children healthy snacks to help in their physical development. Children are able to play outdoors whenever they want to and this means they benefit from regular fresh air and physical development. The childminder provides good support to teach children about being healthy.

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

The childminder has an effective self-evaluation system which helps to ensure that she regularly assesses all areas of her provision for improvement. She and her co-childminder have successfully met the recommendations set at the last inspection. Recent safeguarding training means that the childminder has ensured she is up-to-date with her knowledge and procedures. She has a good awareness of what to do if she ever has concerns about a child in her care. The childminder displays good teaching skills gained through training. These enable her to promote children's speaking, listening and understanding skills. There are progress records for each child in the early years age group, including photographs and written evaluative observations. This enables the childminder to monitor children's learning and development effectively to enable them to make good progress. The childminder has a good partnership with local Reception Class teachers and this provides additional support in preparing children for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY369816
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	829149
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Maidstone, Kent. Her provision operates for over 45 weeks a year, Monday to Friday, all day, with the exception of bank holidays. The childminder is qualified to level 3. The childminder works with another registered childminder.

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