

Childminder Report

Inspection date	24 August 2015
Previous inspection date	16 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

- The childminder knows the children well. She responds to their interests and needs. As a result, children are motivated to learn and make good progress.
- The childminder effectively monitors children's progress. She quickly identifies and addresses any gaps in their learning. This means children develop the key skills they need for future their learning.
- The childminder provides a safe, welcoming and caring environment that promotes children's well-being. Children are confident, settle quickly and feel secure.
- Children behave well. The childminder has simple rules for the children to follow. She calmly and gently reminds children of these and praises them for positive behaviour. As a result, children understand how to behave. This raises their self-esteem.
- The childminder regularly evaluates her service and identifies areas for improvement. She seeks the views of parents, children and other professionals to help her.
- The childminder recognises the importance of working closely with other settings children attend, to provide continuity in their care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is a limited range of natural and sensory toys for children to explore. As a result, the childminder is less effective at supporting this area of children's play and learning.
- At times, the childminder misses some opportunities to use all possible resources, such as storybooks, to prepare all children well for their move to other settings.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to use natural resources and take part in activities that promote them to use all their senses in their learning throughout the setting
- develop further ways of helping children prepare for a move to other settings, such as pre-school or school.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and childminder during play and everyday activities.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about her practice.
- The inspector read comments left for her by parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation. This included the childminder's self-evaluation form, children's records and the childminder's policies and procedures.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the property used for childminding.

Inspector

Lucy Newman

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Overall, the childminder provides a good range of toys and activities to support children's learning well. She has a wide range of electronic toys that particularly appeal to younger children. Children enjoy looking at books with the childminder. She supports their literacy and communication skills as she reads, introduces new words and models language. Children spontaneously use numbers during their play. The childminder re-enforces this learning as she helps them count accurately. She introduces words, such as 'big' when children try to roll different-sized cars down a spiral track. Children develop social skills as the childminder encourages them to play together. They creatively make music and begin to act out stories with play figures. The childminder has a good range of toys and books that help children learn about people in the wider community. She takes children to the park, where they can explore the natural world and develop their physical skills.

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

Relationships are strong at all levels. Children invite the childminder into their play and she respectfully talks with them about their ideas. She provides playful and reassuring cuddles and anticipates children's needs well. The childminder skilfully encourages all children, to play together. Children spontaneously sing as they play. This shows they are happy and feel secure. Children become increasingly independent as they learn to dress themselves, self-select toys and help tidy up. They begin to manage their own personal care needs as they learn to wash their hands effectively or help find the mat for a nappy change. The childminder encourages children to be physically active. She teaches them about healthy eating through play activities and during meal times. The childminder is vigilant at keeping children safe. She identifies and minimises risks within her home and on outings. For instance, she provides high-visibility vests for children to wear outside the setting.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She helps children learn and keeps them safe. The childminder employs an assistant and provides an effective induction and supervision programme. Safeguarding is central to this. The childminder knows what she would cause her concern regarding a child's welfare and the child protection procedures to follow. She has comprehensive policies to help guide her assistant's work and provide a clear framework for her service. The childminder undertakes training and professional support to improve her practice. For instance, she recently introduced a 'wow' board to celebrate children's efforts, boosting their confidence and self-motivation. Relationships with parents are strong and communication is effective. As a result, children receive the care and support they need.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY352757
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	828628
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. She runs her service from Monday to Thursday, 7am to 6pm, all year round. The childminder is accredited to receive funding for free nursery education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder employs an assistant.

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