Childminder Report



Inspection date	14 September 2015
Previous inspection date	19 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder demonstrates a good partnership with parents. She informs them daily of their children's activities and achievements, and this helps encourage parents to engage with their children's learning and development at home.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures and regularly updates her training. This helps to keep children safe and protect them from harm.
- The childminder and her assistant are effective role models who help children to manage their feelings and behaviour, and show respect. They both use the same age-appropriate behaviour approaches to help children to understand boundaries and learn to take turns. As a result, with very little support, children behave very well.
- Children are making good progress and the childminder prepares them well for their next stage of learning. She extends their knowledge of school life through discussions and using books, and encourages them to do self-care skills for themselves.
- The childminder has a calm and nurturing manner. This means that she supports children's emotional needs well. Children are encouraged to play together, which promotes respect and good relationships.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder has a wide range of resources, not all of these are easily available for children to choose for themselves. Therefore, on occasions, this reduces the opportunities for children to make their own choices, particularly those who cannot yet talk.
- The childminder does not fully promote or make effective use of the children's different home languages and backgrounds, or diversity, to help increase their understanding about their own and others' cultures.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase children's independence by making the resources are more accessible to the children
- increase opportunities for children to develop their understanding of their own and others' cultural backgrounds.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, assistant and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed the children's assessment records and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder about how she supports her assistant.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

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Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder shows commitment to ongoing improvement and monitors her practice well. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder gives a high priority to safeguarding children and takes effective steps to minimise risks to children in her home and on outings. She has completed an effective induction to ensure her assistant is fully aware of her roles and responsibilities, and understands the policies thoroughly. The childminder monitors the work of her assistant, provides support through discussions and has arranged training to help her develop her practice. She prioritises her own development and has completed a level 3 qualification. She has good links with the nursery the children attend, and regularly exchanges information about their needs and development. This promotes continuity of care and learning. The childminder provides a report for the schoolteacher about children's progress to enable them to understand children's abilities and interests before they start. This helps to ease children's move on to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. The childminder monitors the children's individual progress well. She uses this to help her clearly identify their current stage of development and plans interesting activities to move their learning forward. The childminder and her assistant both promote children's communication skills well. They talk to the children constantly about what they are doing, introducing new vocabulary and asking questions to encourage them to express themselves. The childminder follows and encourages the children's interest; for example, as they sing a song, a child spontaneously starts to sing as well. She encourages and teaches reading skills well, and uses the pictures in stories to point out details and encourage the children to join. This helps develop children's early literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Both the childminder and assistant encourage the children to be aware of their own safety. They encourage them to tidy away the toys to reduce the risk of tripping and teach them how to use knives correctly when playing with the playdough. The childminder makes good use of opportunities to develop children's physical skills and healthy lifestyles. They learn about healthy diets as they discuss the food in their lunch boxes and eat snacks. They develop their large muscles as they use the apparatus in the garden, at the park and in a soft play area. The childminder has good settling-in procedures and children are happy, settled and have a good relationship with her. As a result, they develop a strong sense of belonging.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. Children are learning to be independent as they complete tasks for themselves. Their mathematical skills are developing well and they are encouraged to recognise size and count as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number 156042

Local authority Medway Towns

Inspection number 836803

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 12

Number of children on roll 11

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 19 July 2010

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Chatham, Kent. She works with an assistant. She cares for children between the hours of 7am and 6pm, each weekday, for most of the year.

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