

Childminder Report

Inspection date

24 September 2015

Previous inspection date

24 April 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn, which supports all children to make tremendous developmental progress.
- The childminder has an exceptional awareness of protecting children and risk assessing the environment. As a result, children are safe and secure at all times.
- The childminder is a very positive role model for children. She reinforces excellent behaviour through targeted praise and encouragement. Therefore, children gain an exceptional understanding of how to manage their own behaviour.
- The quality of teaching is exceptional. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification and constantly updates her already excellent knowledge. This provides high-quality learning experiences that inspire and capture children's interests.
- Excellent partnerships between the childminder and parents ensure that parents receive detailed information about their children's progress. Parents praise the childminder for her professional and supportive care of the children.
- The childminder is highly motivated and exceptionally committed to the improvement of her setting. She fully engages parents in the process by obtaining their views on the service she provides.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the opportunities younger children have to make meaningful marks, to extend their interest in literacy.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about children's activities and their progress.
- A joint observation was conducted with the childminder.
- The inspector read a sample of documents written by the childminder, including the safeguarding policy and children's learning and development information, and discussed these with her.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about her evaluation of the provision.
- The inspector read letters of reference from parents to take account of their views.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder ensures her assistant is fully aware of her policies and has regular practice discussions to support her work with children. She is highly effective in liaising with the other settings children attend and the schools they move to. This promotes continuity in children's care and learning. The childminder has an excellent knowledge and understanding of the stage of development for all children. She tracks their learning very accurately, to note achievements and monitor any gaps in their progress. The childminder meets regularly with other early years providers to share best practice and keep up to date with any changes to early years guidance. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder extensively evaluates observations to identify children's next stage of learning. She constantly gathers information from parents, which she uses to provide a stimulating environment that reflects all children's interests. The childminder makes excellent use of spontaneous events to extend children's learning, such as talking about the helicopter they heard flying overhead, to encourage their recall of past occasions. Children extend their language and communication skills through everyday experiences. They benefit from regular outings, for example, to parks and local castles. This enriches their learning about the local community as they explore the world around them. Children make exceptional progress from their initial starting points because of the skilful questioning and high quality teaching they receive from the childminder.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder builds strong emotional relationships with the children and skilfully supports them to settle quickly. All children are very content and extremely happy. They feel safe in the environment as they explore the home and resources, asking for assistance when needed. For example, children ask the childminder for help as they manoeuvre puzzle pieces into the correct positions. The childminder enables children to have daily opportunities to exercise in the fresh air. She is exceptionally good at helping them learn to manage their personal hygiene routines and have a healthy diet. The childminder provides children with extensive opportunities to meet with friends at a range of groups. This effectively promotes children's personal, social and emotional development.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children's achievements are outstanding. They are confident and independent because they are valued and respected. Children gain the skills they need in preparation for their move to school. Older children are extremely motivated to learn to write and have a very keen interest in literacy. However, this is less effective for the younger children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358191
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	837945
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Sittingbourne, Kent. She is in receipt of funding for free nursery education for children aged three and four years old. The childminder holds an appropriate level 3 early years qualification. She occasionally works with an assistant.

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