

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 September 2015

Previous inspection date

11 January 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 has a good understanding of how children learn. She plans a range of exciting activities, which motivate children to learn about the world around them.
- The childminder is clear about her role in safeguarding children and is aware of the action to take, and who to contact, should she have any concerns regarding their welfare.
- The childminder has forged positive relationships with parents. This enables her to promote good quality, continuous care and learning opportunities for each child.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how to support children moving on to schools and nurseries. Therefore, children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder provides children with an interesting environment where they are able to access activities and resources. This enables them to make informed choices in their play and develop their independence.
- Children are settled and show a sense of belonging. They have formed close bonds with the childminder as a result of her warm, caring nature and effective settling-in procedures.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide opportunities for children to see and use written words in their everyday environment, to help them to understand that print has meaning.
- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities in everyday activities to support children to develop their early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to see words written down, to help them understand that print carries meaning
- review the organisation of resources, to enable children to practise their early writing skills more during everyday activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a selection of policies and children's records
- The inspector discussed risk assessments with the childminder and inspected the premises.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder various aspects of children's care and the childminder's understanding of how children learn and develop.
- A joint observation was conducted with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and expressed in letters of recommendation.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder confidently meets the safeguarding, learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has recently updated her safeguarding training and has the required documentation in place to support children's safety. The childminder is committed to improving her own practices and encourages parents to help her to move forward. Parents state that they are very happy with the services that the childminder provides. The childminder has close relationships with other professionals, which supports her to keep her knowledge and skills up to date. She has strong links with local schools and nurseries as part of her commitment to providing a consistency of care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has extensive knowledge of the stages of development of all the children in her care. She carries out detailed observations, which she evaluates to identify the children's next stage of learning. The childminder extends the children's learning well by providing a variety of activities. For example, as they learn about the lifecycle of the frog, children enjoy looking at books as well as watching the frogspawn change. The childminder makes effective use of all experiences to support the children's communication and language. For example, children talk excitedly with her about the photographs of the sunflowers they took home to grow. She incorporates mathematical language into the children's play, introducing words to describe shapes and sizes, for example. Children are making good progress from their initial starting points because of the quality of teaching they receive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The children show they are content and happy in the childminder's care. They settle quickly and engage with activities even before parents leave. They have daily opportunities to play in the fresh air and to practise their physical skills as they interact with friends. The childminder has clear rules and boundaries, and children behave well. They are learning about keeping themselves safe as they look after their environment. For example, children help put resources away, so that they can get other equipment out. They make choices for themselves; for example, at snack time, they choose which fruit they would like to eat, as the childminder teaches them how to have a healthy diet. Children gain a good awareness of their local community and of the diverse world in which they live. They enjoy trips to parks as well as to a variety of groups where they develop their personal, social and emotional skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They are confident, and have good personal hygiene and independence skills. They are polite and kind to their friends as they share equipment; for example, taking turns with the new ball. They are

acquiring the skills needed for school readiness.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125331
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	846275
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in Birchington, Kent. The childminder is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years old. She supports disabled children and those who have special educational needs, and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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