

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 October 2015
Previous inspection date	23 February 2011

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 attends regular child protection training. She is aware of how to safeguard children and the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about children in her care.
- Children thrive in the calm and welcoming environment where they make good progress in their development.
- Children have plenty of opportunity to play with a range of resources that engage their senses and extend their understanding of the world around them.
- Children benefit from daily opportunities to exercise in the fresh air. The childminder makes good use of parks and local attractions to support the children's physical development.
- Partnerships with parents are strong due to the regular exchange of information.
- The childminder is committed to raising outcomes for children. She regularly reflects on her practice and increases her skills and knowledge through training. This enables her to continue and develop the quality of care and learning the children receive.
- Children have close bonds with the nurturing childminder. This helps them to form a strong bond and settle well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide older children with experiences that encourage their early writing skills in their daily play activities.
- Children do not always learn, or use, mathematical language during their activities and daily routines to extend their understanding further, for example, about numbers and shapes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills during a variety of experiences to extend their literacy skills further
- develop further opportunities for children to learn about, and use, mathematical language in everyday activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- 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 observed the daily routine, and discussed the organisation and management of the childminding service with the childminder, including how she operates with her co-minder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe and secure. She carries out robust risk assessments and has a clear understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She works closely with her co-childminder to ensure that they thoroughly meet children's needs throughout day. The childminder completes clear assessments of children's learning to record their achievements. She regularly reflects on her practice and has addressed recommendations from her previous inspection, which demonstrates a commitment to improve outcomes for children. The childminder fosters strong links with other agencies to support children and their families. Parents are extremely pleased with the service they receive from the childminder.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's quality of teaching is good because she is attentive to children's needs and stage of development. She provides them with a stimulating learning environment, which focuses on their interests. Children are active learners who are eager to explore and investigate. The childminder praises children for their achievements and perseverance, for example when they use new tools. Children extend their vocabulary when they listen to stories and talk about the pictures. The childminder responds well to toddlers as they chatter and, through repetition, they learn to pronounce words correctly and match them to objects. The childminder effectively broadens children's interest in literacy so they learn that words have meaning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop confidence and self-reliance as they independently investigate the home. The childminder stays close by, ready to help if needed; for instance, supporting toddlers as they gain their balance before going off to explore. Children learn how to stay safe and manage their own safety. Children benefit from regular outings in the local community. They routinely meet with friends and attend a variety of groups, to support their personal, social and emotional development. The childminder encourages the children to try new foods at mealtimes, as she teaches them about a healthy diet. The childminder is a good role model and, as a result, children treat each other with respect, behave well and are polite.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their initial starting points. Children are confident and independent, as they play in an environment where they feel valued and respected. They have the skills they need to be ready for the next stage of their learning and the move on to nurseries and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125756
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840541
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Folkestone, Kent. There are steps into the property and the garden is on three levels. The childminder operates her service Monday to Friday, from 7am to 7pm all year round. She works with a co-minder. The childminder holds a Foundation Degree in Early Years.

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