

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 October 2015
Previous inspection date	8 March 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 uses her detailed knowledge of individual children's needs and current interests to plan a range of activities and experiences. Children are motivated to explore and learn, which helps them make good progress.
- The childminder provides children with daily outdoor experiences. Children are well supported to develop their physical skills and understanding of the world. For example, they visit a local farm, gym sessions and the park.
- Children feel safe, secure, and develop high levels of self-esteem. The childminder provides them with caring reassurance and support.
- Children's behaviour is well managed. The childminder is a good role model and provides clear guidance about behavioural expectations and why these are important.
- The childminder engages parents and children in evaluating her practice and is aware of her strengths and areas for improvement.
- The childminder has good links with the local school that children attend and exchanges information about their needs well, which promotes a consistent approach.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make her wide range of resources easily accessible to children, which reduces opportunities for them to independently lead their play.
- On occasions, the childminder asks questions that do not always inspire children to connect their ideas and try to solve their own problems.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the organisation of resources to help children make more independent choices to lead their own play
- strengthen the use of questioning to support children to connect ideas and develop their thinking skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, parents 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 took account of parents' written views on the quality of the provision.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is committed to developing and improving her practice, for example, she has gained a further childcare qualification since her previous inspection. She regularly updates her knowledge through training and discussions with other childminders, building on her practice and quality of teaching. She has addressed the recommendations from her previous inspection. For example, she has improved her use of observations and information from parents to develop a clear understanding of children's starting points. The childminder checks that she provides learning experiences that reflect the needs of all children and which cover all areas of learning. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a very secure understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures. She is confident about how to respond to any concerns she may have about a child in her care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder monitors children's progress closely to identify their next steps in learning. Parents are regularly updated with information to help support children's learning at home. The childminder knows the children well. She recognises when they require support in their learning, and plans activities to meet their needs. Children are confident learners who develop their understanding of the world and mathematical skills through their interests. For example, they talk about insect names and count their legs. Children's language development is good and they have plenty of opportunities to practise their skills. For instance, the childminder encourages conversations, and they sing songs and read books together. The childminder promotes children's early writing skills well. For example, children develop their coordination as they have fun using tweezers to pick up pompoms.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form secure emotional attachments with the childminder. They are very happy and feel safe in the homely environment. Children are independent in their self-care skills. They wash their hands before eating and learn about healthy food. For example, the childminder provides nutritious lunches and encourages discussions about healthy lifestyles. Children are developing their self-help skills. For instance, they have a go at putting on their own coat and are learning to put on their shoes. Children are emotionally ready for their move on to school. For example, they attend local toddler playgroups where they play and make friends with other children. Toddlers go with the childminder to collect older children from school where they see the teachers and school environment.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and develop key skills so they are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including school. For example, children talk about big and small objects they find in the sand tray and count conkers they find.

Setting details

Unique reference number	160772
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	836843
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	8 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Rainham, Gillingham, Kent. She cares for children between the hours of 7.30am and 6.30pm. The childminder is accredited to receive government funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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