

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 November 2015

Previous inspection date

15 March 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 uses her secure understanding of how children develop to provide a good range of learning opportunities and activities. She links these to children's interests and this helps motivate them to learn.
- Children develop a close relationship with the childminder. This enables them to be confident and settle well, with a good sense of belonging.
- The childminder understands the need to keep children's learning opportunities interesting and challenging. For example, she regularly researches new activities that she incorporates into her planning.
- The childminder has a good partnership with parents. She uses different methods to gather and share information with them about their child's development and care. This contributes to meeting children's individual needs and learning.
- The quality of the teaching is effective. This enables children to make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully developed partnership working with other early years settings that children attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the arrangements for partnership working with other early years settings that children attend to complement the good exchange of information and support children to make even better progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed the children's assessment records and a selection of policies and procedures, including the safeguarding procedure.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder fully understands her responsibilities and knows how to report any child protection concerns to the appropriate professionals. Risk assessments ensure that her home is safe and children can explore confidently. The childminder develops children's understanding of safety as, for example, she encourages them to tidy up the toys to avoid trips. She keeps herself up to date through research and links with other childminders to discuss and share good practice ideas. The childminder monitors her practice effectively and engages with parents to gain their views. This helps her develop a clear understanding of her strengths and areas of development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses observations and assessments well to promote children's next steps in learning and plan activities that challenge them. She supports their communication skills well. Children develop into confident talkers who are keen to interact with adults. For example, they discuss past events as they happily talk about their holidays and Halloween experiences. This helps them learn about people beyond their personal experiences and contributes towards their understanding of different communities. Children show an interest in the stimulating range of books available and this encourages the childminder to read stories. She uses these opportunities to develop children's early reading skills. For example, she discusses the detail in the pictures and encourages children to repeat familiar words. She enables parents to join in with children's learning, for instance, when she sends books, activities and toys home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder uses sensitive settling-in arrangements to suit each child and their family. She provides regular communication to reassure parents, and children settle quickly. The childminder praises children constantly for their achievements and they seek her out to share their experiences. Children are confident and their self-esteem develops well with the childminder. For example, children benefit from spending time at local playgroups to help build their social skills as they mix with different children. They develop good physical skills, for example, as they use equipment in the garden and park. Children learn about healthy eating through, for example, cooking activities and growing vegetables in the garden. The childminder is a good role model and sets clear boundaries that children understand. Children's behaviour is good and they use good manners.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop key skills that they need for their move on to school. They are confident, interested and motivated as they make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126552
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840574
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 March 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in Dartford, Kent. She cares for children between the hours of 8am and 6pm, for most of the year. 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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