

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 January 2016

Previous inspection date

25 April 2012

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

- Children are very happy and settled. They form good relationships with the childminder and other children. This helps them to develop confidence and learn social skills.
- The childminder provides space for children to explore and learn in safety. She offers a range of interesting activities that are suitably challenging for the children. This supports children to make good progress in their learning.
- Children regularly make choices about how they would like to learn and what they would like to play with. The childminder encourages them to be independent and knows their individual needs very well.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder and parents share information with each other daily about children's learning and care to promote a consistent approach.
- The childminder has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities. She keeps her knowledge up to date and attends a range of courses to promote her own development. She uses her training to make valuable improvements to her provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder, on occasion, does not make the most of opportunities to use questions to increase children's thinking and knowledge of new concepts.
- The childminder does not always provide a varied range of activities for children to develop their knowledge about the natural world and living things further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the use of questioning techniques to extend children's understanding of new ideas and concepts further
- develop opportunities for children to experience, and learn about, the natural world and living things further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in play and activities, both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including policies, procedures and children's learning records.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Anna Kersley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has detailed risk assessments and strong safeguarding procedures in place to help keep children safe from harm. She is aware of potential symptoms of abuse and knows what to do if she has concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder monitors children's development and knows how to identify when they may require additional support. She is committed to working closely with parents and external agencies to help children to make the best possible progress in their learning and development. The childminder understands the importance of working with other settings, including local nurseries, and has forged strong links with schools to prepare children for their move on to them. She reflects on her strengths and areas of development to continue to develop her practice and raise standards for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder's quality of teaching is good. Children enjoy opportunities to develop a range of skills. For example, they enjoy high levels of interaction as they cuddle up with the childminder to read a book and are motivated by the challenge of completing an alphabet puzzle as a team. The childminder often follows children's interests and uses opportunities with modern technology for children to develop their understanding of counting, shapes, sharing and taking turns. The childminder encourages children to develop their imagination as she plays with them and models new skills. For instance, children are excited as they play in the playhouse and offer the childminder pretend cups of tea. The childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn. She makes effective use of observations to identify children's achievements and plan their next steps in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are eager to investigate the range of resources and toys on offer. They have secure attachments with the childminder and feel confident to explore the environment in her nurturing care. The childminder is an excellent role model and teaches children how to be kind to their friends and negotiate during play. For example, children take turns to push each other in the ride-on cars in the garden. The childminder understands the importance of engaging children in the wider community. She takes them to visit groups and local parks to develop their social skills. Children benefit from daily opportunities to be physically active outdoors. The childminder encourages children to eat nutritious food and works in partnerships with parents to promote children's health and well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. They develop a range of skills, such as early reading and mathematics, in preparation for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435975
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	824138
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	25 April 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in South Darenth, Kent. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification to level 3. She offers flexible childcare throughout the week, including the possibility of bank holidays, weekends and overnight care.

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