

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 February 2016

Previous inspection date

20 April 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder knows the children well and makes good use of ongoing assessment to monitor their progress. She provides activities that capture children's interest and provide a good level of challenge. Children make good progress in all areas of development.
- The childminder's friendly, calm and caring interaction with the children creates a wonderfully warm environment. Children develop superb self-esteem and excellent social skills.
- There is a strong and successful focus on promoting children's health and well-being. Children become independent in their self-care, learn to make healthy food choices and benefit from lots of physical exercise.
- Accurate and realistic self-evaluation helps the childminder to identify and build on her strengths and effectively target areas for improvement.
- Partnership working with parents and other professionals is highly effective, helping to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's opportunities to practise drawing and writing in their free play, to further extend their good literacy skills, are sometimes limited.

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 pre-writing skills during their freely chosen play to help them make even better progress in their literacy development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with the children and with her co-childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked a sample of documents, including safety policies and records of children's progress.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written feedback.

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder works extremely well with her co-childminder to provide an efficient and effective service that successfully meets the needs of all children and families. The childminder attends training to keep her knowledge and skills up to date. For example, she has recently completed a course to further improve her skills in recognising potential concerns about children's welfare. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder fully understands her role in protecting children and knows the procedures to follow should any concerns arise. Newly introduced systems to monitor children's progress are embedding well and are beginning to help the childminder identify any emerging gaps in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder skilfully builds on children's interests to extend their learning. For example, as they have fun exploring play foods, the childminder encourages them to learn the names of each item and to consider the size and shape. The childminder promotes language and communication very well as children play. She asks questions to encourage them to think and respond, and helps to develop their vocabularies. Sensitive observation and accurate assessment help the childminder to plan very precisely to reflect children's individual needs. She understands that children develop at different rates and in different ways and adapts her teaching to reflect their individual needs. All children progress well and develop skills that prepare them for their future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are exceptionally happy, settled and confident in the childminder's care. There is a strong sense of fun in the childminder's home and children confidently explore and express their views. Highly effective relationships with parents help the childminder to gain a thorough understanding of each child's personality and preferences. Feedback from parents is extremely positive. They comment that their children make good progress and are very keen to attend each day. The childminder is highly responsive to children's needs. She knows instinctively when to offer encouragement for them to try things for themselves and when to intervene to offer support.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are wonderfully sociable and extremely caring. For example, they respond with genuine concern when a friend becomes slightly distressed, offering a drink and a comforting touch. Children make good use of their rapidly developing language to express themselves and communicate happily with the childminder and their friends. They develop good physical skills and coordination through active play in the childminder's home and on regular outings. All children are confident, motivated learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400025
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	987781
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 April 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives and works with her co-childminder, who is also a registered childminder, in Edenbridge, Kent. The childminder operates from 8am to 6pm on weekdays, all year round. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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