

Childminder Report

Inspection date	26 February 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 make good progress as they enjoy a good range of activities that reflect their interests and individual learning needs. The childminder has given careful thought to the layout of the play area and provides ample space for children to become actively involved in their learning.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of how to safeguard and protect children. She shares her policy and procedures with parents so that they understand her responsibilities towards protecting their children.
- Children learn about their own community and experience the world around them. They have daily opportunities to exercise in the fresh air and benefit from regular outings to the local woods and parks.
- The childminder gathers information from parents about their children when they begin to attend and this exchange continues throughout the time they are with her. She uses this information well to help meet children's care and learning needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder knows where children are in their development. However, she is not fully monitoring their learning, to show the progress of individuals and groups of children over time.
- The childminder does not provide children with enough opportunities to see print and explore their early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring system to effectively track children's rate of progress more effectively over time
- give children more opportunities to see print and explore with early writing materials, to further develop their interest in literacy.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's learning journeys, including assessment documents and next steps on the computerised system.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder various aspects of children's care, and the childminder's understanding of safeguarding and how to keep children safe and secure at all times.
- The inspector discussed the organisation and management of the childminding service with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- 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 understands her responsibility to report any concerns about children's welfare. Her home environment is secure and she carries out regular risk assessments of all aspects of her provision. For example, she makes sure children do not have unsupervised access to the family dog. The childminder is committed to raising outcomes for children. She reflects on her practice and identifies areas for future development to increase her skills and knowledge, for example, through training and research. This enables her to continue and develop the quality of care and learning children receive. Relationships with parents and other professionals are good, which helps to ensure children's learning and welfare needs are well supported.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder makes effective use of observations and assessments to identify children's next steps in learning. She understands children's individual interests and fascinations, and makes good use of these to plan activities which motivate them to learn. For example, she includes dinosaurs in a new activity to encourage children to take part. The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well through all activities. She listens carefully to children and makes good use of repetition to support children to learn new words and correct pronunciation. Children have good opportunities to learn about technology and investigate how things work. For instance, they explore the exciting range of wheels and switches on offer.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming environment. Children are able to develop good levels of self-confidence and independence, because they make their own decisions about what they do and play with. The childminder has effective settling-in procedures, which help children to form close bonds with her and to feel secure. The childminder provides children with nutritious snacks and is aware of how to support any dietary needs. She puts clear procedures in place to ensure she supports their good health and well-being. Children learn about keeping themselves safe, for example, when clearing toys away to prevent trips, and through practising the fire drill. Children's behaviour is appropriate to their age. The childminder has clear rules and boundaries to help children learn how to share and take turns. The childminder takes children to a variety of groups. She provides them with opportunities to interact with others and acquire the skills needed for their personal, social and emotional development.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points. They are confident, sociable and enjoy developing the skills needed for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478848
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	994552
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Ashford, Kent. She operates her service Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year round.

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