

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 May 2016

Previous inspection date

13 October 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 provides a good number of toys that interest, engage and stimulate children in their learning and development.
- The childminder understands the importance of providing a good level of care and learning. She encourages children to learn the skills they need for their eventual move to nursery.
- The childminder observes and assesses children's progress well and plans the next steps in their learning effectively. The quality of teaching is consistently good. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of how to support children's health and safety. For example, she shares her written child protection policy and procedure with parents. This helps them to clearly understand her responsibility towards protecting their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The range of resources and toys available does not fully provide children with different materials and textures to explore.
- The childminder does not always extend opportunities for children to investigate and experiment with different media.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the range of resources and toys to include different materials and textures
- improve opportunities for children to investigate and experiment with a wider variety of different media to develop their creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding, in relation to health and safety.
- The inspector discussed various aspects of children's care and understanding of how children learn and develop with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed the organisation and management of the childminding service with the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector read a sample of documents written by the childminder, including the safeguarding policy, and children's learning and development information, and discussed these with her.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is clear about her role in safeguarding children. She is aware of the action to take and who to contact should she have any concerns about their welfare. The childminder teaches children to identify risks and stay safe in her setting. She regularly reflects on the service she provides and has met all the recommendations from her previous inspection. For example, she regularly practises fire drills to ensure all children are familiar with the procedures to follow. The childminder has a positive attitude towards improving her setting, for instance she meets regularly with other professionals to share best practice. Parents state that they are very happy with the care their children receive and the effective communication and information sharing.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She knows children's individual abilities and extends their enjoyment and learning with planned activities. For example, she helps babies to manipulate objects as they put them in shape sorters to gain a sense of achievement. Children's communication and language skills develop quickly. For example, the childminder makes good use of conversations and skilful questions to develop children's speech. Children learn about and see the world around them. For example, they benefit from regular local outings, such as trips to the library where they routinely meet with friends to support their social development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is attentive to children's needs and provides a stimulating environment, which reflects the needs and interests of children. Children form strong emotional attachments with the childminder, who is a good role model and has high expectations of them. Children learn to behave well. They respect and value people's similarities and differences. Young children are relaxed and ready to learn, knowing the childminder is close by for a reassuring cuddle. The childminder makes good use of mealtimes to extend children's learning. For example, she encourages them to try a variety of foods and teaches them about how to have a healthy diet. The childminder encourages a healthy lifestyle. For instance, children take part in daily physical play in the garden or during outings to the park and woods.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are confident and independent. Children are happy and eager to explore the environment. They gain a strong vocabulary and good thinking skills. Young children begin to develop an awareness of mathematics, for example, as they learn about shapes and counting. Children have the skills needed for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	103362
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1034007
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Hempstead, Kent. She provides care Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6pm, for most of the year. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

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