Childminder Report



Inspection date8 June 2Previous inspection date23 April			
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspectio	n: Requires Improvement	3
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 varied range of good-quality toys and resources which is easily available for children to make their own choices in their play.
- The childminder makes accurate observations and assessments of children's development and identifies their next steps in learning effectively. As a result, children make good progress and engage with activities that reflect their interests and individual learning needs.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of how to safeguard and protect children. She shares her well-written policy and procedure with her assistants so they understand their responsibilities towards protecting children.
- The childminder provides a range of healthy snacks and nutritious homemade meals that children enjoy. These promote healthy lifestyles well.
- The childminder and her assistant are good role models for children. They reinforce positive behaviour through praise and encouragement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide older children with sufficient resources to extend their interest in early writing.
- The childminder has not fully established a secure training programme to support her assistants. This means that they sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's understanding of the world and mathematical skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for older children to explore their early writing skills in all areas of the environment, to develop their interest in literacy further
- continue to support the training of the assistants to improve their skills and knowledge, to ensure they fully extend children's learning, especially in their understanding of the world and mathematical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed risk assessments with the childminder and inspected all areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through letters of recommendation.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's assessment folders and policies and procedures, including those related to safeguarding, sickness and sun protection.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she supports her assistants.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistants constantly supervise children to make sure they are safe and secure at all times. They carry out thorough risk assessments, ensuring the areas children use are free from potential hazards and safe; for example, they have installed a sun canopy to provide a shaded place to play in the garden. The childminder works well with other professionals to meet children's individual needs, consistently sharing information about their learning needs. She provides parents with daily information about their children's day, to support home learning and provide continuity of care. The childminder has developed an effective self-evaluation process, which means her provision continues to change, to improve the service she provides. She completes a range of professional development training, such as online courses, to improve her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a wide range of interesting learning opportunities, both indoors and outdoors. She plans activities based on the children's next steps, interests and fascinations to ensure children are motivated to learn. Children develop skills for the future and are independent, active learners. The childminder supports children's language and communication skills effectively. She repeats words back to them, to enable children to hear the words pronounced correctly and provides children with time to gather their ideas and reply to her questions, for instance, as they name the animals on the buttons in the game. Children have cosy areas to enjoy books independently or with an adult, to develop their interest in words and stories.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has adopted thorough settling-in procedures, which enable children to forge strong bonds with her and her assistants. She provides the children with a welcoming home environment where they confidently investigate and explore, knowing that a familiar adult is close by for a cuddle. Children learn good hygiene procedures, for example, they know to wash their hands before mealtimes and after toileting. Children have daily opportunities to play in the local environment; for example, they walk to schools and the shops. They develop a good understanding of a healthy lifestyle and learn about their local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They are confident, sociable and enjoy learning. Children learn how to take turns and share. This helps them to be well prepared for their future learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418304
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1049392
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 April 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Larkfield, in Aylesford, Kent. She has two assistants registered to work with her. The childminder provides care Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.45pm for most of the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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