

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 September 2016

Previous inspection date

4 April 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	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 quality of teaching in the setting has improved. The childminder now plans challenging activities to meet children's individual learning needs. Children make good progress and are well prepared for their next stage of learning, including starting school.
- Children feel happy and confident to initiate and choose their play. The childminder forms secure bonds with children and these help to develop their emotional well-being.
- The childminder has comprehensive safeguarding policies in place and she follows these consistently to support children's welfare. She also attends regular safeguarding training to help keep her knowledge up to date.
- The childminder gathers the views of parents and other professionals to evaluate her practice effectively. For example, she has made several changes to her practice and met all actions and recommendations raised at her last inspection. This has improved children's outcomes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always offer parents suggestions of how to support children at home to further enhance their learning.
- Children have few opportunities to understand that print carries meaning to help their early reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve strategies for involving parents and carers in children's development and learning even further to strengthen continuity in learning
- provide more opportunities for children to understand that print carries meaning to help build on their early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed all play areas in the property.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed how the childminder uses self-evaluation to develop her practice.

Inspector

Josephine Afful

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder understands the importance of meeting requirements at all times. For example, she now maintains a valid paediatric first aid certificate and understands that she must not allow this to lapse. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder fully understands her role in child protection and she knows what action to take if she has any welfare concerns. She carries out thorough risk assessments to minimise hazards to children to help them play safely. The childminder monitors the practice of her assistant to ensure children's needs are met. She evaluates how well she meets the different learning needs of children to help improve on future learning. For example, she has attended a workshop with other childminders to heighten her understanding of how children learn through play. This has significantly improved her teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses effective observations and assessments to identify gaps in children's learning and puts measures in place to help children make good progress. She is flexible in her approach to putting her planning into action so she can continually follow children's interests. For example, when children show a keen interest in outdoor play, the childminder quickly responds to this and provides activities to match their interest. She stores resources at a low level to enable younger children to access toys of their choice independently. This helps children to be confident learners. The childminder provides many opportunities for children to be curious and develop good thinking skills. For instance, very young children work out how to use a water hose to water plants.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder supports children to build confidence to manage minor risks. For example, when younger children are climbing stairs and play equipment, she reminds them to be careful. She gives children clear details of her rules and expectations. This helps them to learn what is expected and they behave well. The childminder provides numerous opportunities for children to adopt healthy lifestyles. For example, she provides healthy foods and uses the apple tree in her garden as a great subject of discussion to reinforce the importance of healthy eating.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good communication and language skills. For example, babies babble a lot and toddlers are able to join words to make sentences. Children are active learners and develop good physical skills. For example, babies are very mobile and crawl around independently. They begin to acquire the skills needed to walk independently. Toddlers also climb different apparatus with confidence. They make good progress and develop key skills for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477947
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1057977
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	4 April 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Gravesend, Kent and provides care from 7.30am to 7pm Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder occasionally works with her daughter, who is registered as her assistant.

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