

Childminder Report

Inspection date	9 November 2016
Previous inspection date	2 December 2013

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 observes and assesses children's progress well and plans for their next steps in learning. He has given careful thought to the layout of the play areas. For example, he provides plenty of space where children can play with the good range of resources and toys. Children make good progress.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to safeguard children. He completes thorough risk assessments to maintain children's well-being and safety. For example, he provides clear explanations to children on how to look and listen when crossing the road.
- The childminder constantly reflects on his practice and works closely with his co-childminder to ensure that the service they provide meets the needs of the children and their families.
- The childminder works very closely with other early years professionals to ensure that children receive good continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder provides a range of healthy snacks and nutritious home-made meals that children help to prepare. For instance, they pick tomatoes to eat at dinner time.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The range of opportunities for children to explore and use their senses is limited.
- The childminder does not routinely plan experiences that enable younger children to participate fully in group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for younger children to learn through sensory exploration
- ensure the experiences on offer enable younger children to participate fully.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's learning journeys, including assessment documents and next steps, and some policies and procedures relevant to the inspection.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding, including those used for overnight care.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed the organisation and management of the provision with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the day and read letters of recommendation to obtain their views on the service they receive.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is clear about his role in safeguarding children. He is aware of the action to take and who to contact should he have any concerns about children's welfare. The childminder undertakes a range of professional development training, such as online courses, to improve his practice. The childminder ensures that his assistant has a good understanding of his role and responsibilities. He encourages his assistant to extend his knowledge to support further the outcomes for children. The childminder has built highly effective relationships with parents, who are fully involved in their children's learning. For instance, he provides parents with regular newsletters and activities are sent home in the children's book bags to aid home learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well and has a good understanding of their interests and stage of development. For example, he uses skilful questions to extend children's interest in animals to encourage them to talk about where gorillas live. Children make good progress in their communication and language development. The childminder incorporates mathematical language into daily routines and planned activities. For instance, children search for different shapes while at the park. The childminder makes effective use of spontaneous events, such as talking about the refuse lorry as it makes its way down the street. Children learn about the world around them. For example, they benefit from regular local outings, such as trips to animal parks and the beach to learn about their local community.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides children with an interesting and engaging environment where they are able to freely choose what they would like to play with. Children forge strong bonds with the childminder. Children receive constant reassurance and affection to develop their independence and self-esteem. For example, the childminder encourages children to wash and dry their hands independently to aid their personal care routines. Children behave very well. The childminder provides children with daily opportunities for exercise. For example, he takes children on walks to local parks to use large play equipment to support their physical development.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and eager to explore the environment. They are interested, engaged and confident. Children learn how to share and take turns. They begin to develop an interest in literacy. For example, they take turns to place ticks next to shapes they have found. Children make good progress from their starting points. They gain the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, including moving on to nursery and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY279087
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1061751
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2000. He lives in Allington, near Maidstone, Kent. The childminder works with his wife, who is a co-childminder, and their son, who works as an assistant. The childminder offers care every day from 7am to 7pm. He is also registered to offer overnight care. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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