

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 November 2016

Previous inspection date

27 March 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 continually builds on her professional development and regularly attends courses and workshops. This helps her to develop her childcare knowledge and her current practices to continually improve outcomes for children.
- Children are provided with a range of activities that meets their individual needs. The childminder ensures children are challenged in their play, according to their age and stage of development.
- The childminder is sensitive and thorough in helping children understand the importance of listening to instructions and sharing with others in their play. Children respond well and learn about acceptable behaviour.
- The childminder encourages children's awareness of healthy lifestyle routines. She provides them with opportunities to engage in physical activity and play. Children enjoy a balanced diet, for example they can choose from a variety of fruits and home-cooked food during the day.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently explore additional ways to hold children's interest and help them concentrate.
- Sometimes the childminder does not extend children's awareness of different natural materials and resources, to help support their understanding of the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more encouragement for children to engage fully in activities and focus on what they are doing
- increase opportunities for children to explore and investigate different resources and the world around them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in activities and the childminder's interactions with them.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's practice with her including her teaching methods and her use of observation and assessments to support children's progress.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents and records relating to safeguarding and children's progress.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation process with her and looked at written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Mary Vandeppeer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good understanding of child protection procedures. She is aware of what to do if she has concerns for children's welfare and this includes risks of harm from extremist behaviours and views. The environments children use are risk assessed carefully to help ensure they are safe for them to use. Safeguarding is effective. Overall, the childminder's childcare experience and training has improved the quality of her practice and teaching. Since the last inspection she has effectively improved children's access to visual information and they find this helpful in their learning of numbers, shapes and letters. The childminder regularly observes children and monitors their progress. Parents state their children enjoy their time at the setting and that the childminder informs them on how to extend their children's learning at home further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gives good attention to developing children's communication and language skills. She introduces them to new words and provides a running commentary as they play. For example, she prompts children to talk about what they are doing as they make a banana cake. The childminder skilfully introduces words to further their understanding, for example, of quantity as they add ingredients to mix for the cake. She uses favourite stories to encourage children to recall what they know and remember. The childminder also follows up children's ideas and gives them guidance to help extend their learning. Children show confidence and determination, and they use small world figures to act out familiar scenes. The childminder takes children on daily outings to various local amenities, such as the library, which help them learn about their community.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder knows children very well. She works closely with parents to establish children's development and care needs from the start. Children develop strong emotional bonds with the childminder. She is a good role model and provides them with gentle but firm reminders about her expectations of behaviour. The childminder helps children understand the importance of keeping themselves safe. They are offered daily opportunities to take part in active play. For example, the childminder makes good use of local parks and activity groups, to help children develop further their socialising skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are active and eager to learn. They are confident enough to play and explore and try things for themselves. They play with excitement and energy. Children enjoy good relationships and are successful learners. All children make good progress from their individual starting points. They are developing the skills and attitudes they need for their future learning, for example in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY301744
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1061875
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 March 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in Bearsted, in Maidstone, Kent. The childminder operates her service all day, each weekday, with the exception of bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is qualified to level 3 in childcare and education. She is able to receive funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years old and the Early Years Pupil Premium funding.

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