

Childminder Report

Inspection date	14 November 2016
Previous inspection date	18 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

- Children are happy and content with the childminder. They clearly trust her and enjoy her interaction with them in their play and learning. They have a strong sense of belonging. The childminder meets their emotional needs well such as by offering them encouragement and praise.
- The childminder understands the importance of providing children with daily opportunities to exercise. For example, trips to the beach and local parks to support children's physical development.
- Children have a wide variety of toys and resources that interests and engages them to help their development. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder gathers information from parents about their children when they begin to attend and this exchange continues throughout the time they are with her. She uses this information well to provide continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder has a good awareness of safeguarding and the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about children in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully considered ways to enable younger children to relax, enjoy quiet time or look at reading materials.
- Children do not have regular opportunities to explore and investigate to develop their senses.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the organisation of the environment to enable all children to relax and engage in quieter activities
- improve opportunities for younger children to explore and experiment using their senses.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed risk assessments with the childminder and inspected all areas of the premises.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder various aspects of children's care and the childminder's understanding of how children learn and develop.
- The inspector read a sample of documents written by the childminder, including the safeguarding policy, and children's learning and development information.
- The inspector and the childminder evaluated the effectiveness of an activity together.
- The inspector read comments on parent questionnaires to take into account their views about the service they receive.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures her home environment is secure. For example, she regularly practises fire drills to ensure all children are familiar with the procedures to follow. The childminder provides close supervision and monitors the children constantly to keep them safe at all times. She regularly reflects on the service she provides and has met all recommendations from her previous inspection. For instance, she has introduced additional resources to aid babies with physical development and to support their hand-to-eye coordination. The childminder has a positive attitude towards improving her setting. For example, she meets regularly with other early years professionals to share best practice. She communicates effectively with parents to exchange information about daily activities and update changes in babies' care routines.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She observes and assesses children's progress well and plans the next steps in their learning. She knows children's individual abilities and extends their enjoyment and learning. For example, she helps children manipulate shapes as they post them in shape sorters, to gain a sense of achievement. The childminder extends children's language skills well. For instance, she makes effective use of repetition and commentary such as making animal noises while she points to animals in the book. Children have a wide variety of resources to support them to learn about similarities and differences. For example, they explore the different characters before sitting them on the play bus. Children confidently choose the things they would like to play with, they make informed choices in their play and have lots of opportunities to investigate and explore.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form close bonds with the childminder who is attentive to children's needs and provides a stimulating environment. Children eagerly explore the environment knowing that the childminder is close at hand for a cuddle and assistance if needed. Children's behaviour is age appropriate. The childminder has clear rules and behaviour boundaries and helps children develop good social skills. Children learn about how to make healthy food choices. The childminder is aware of how to meet any special dietary requirements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children and babies make good progress in relation to their starting points. Young children begin to develop an awareness of mathematics, for example, as they explore shapes. They enjoy sharing books as they begin to learn that words have meaning. Children develop the skills needed for the next stage in their learning, which will help them when they move on to nursery and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340850
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1062019
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Strood, near Rochester, Kent. The childminder 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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