

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 February 2017

Previous inspection date

15 April 2014

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 provides a welcoming, homely environment where children are happy and have fun learning. Children have access to a variety of resources that are age and stage appropriate.
- Since the previous inspection, the childminder has developed her practice in how to provide more opportunities for children to practise their writing skills. For example, they have chalks, paints and crayons for use both indoors and outdoors. She also questions children and extends their problem-solving skills, for example, by providing them with more challenging puzzles.
- The childminder consistently observes, assesses and monitors how well children are achieving in their learning when they are with her. She plans activities that engage and interest children.
- The childminder's calm and gentle nature makes children feel welcome, safe and secure. Children are content and display good levels of confidence and self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder directs children during their play and does not consistently encourage them to take the lead and follow their own learning.
- The childminder has not yet fully developed her partnerships with parents to help support greater continuity in their children's care and learning.

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 children to direct and lead their own learning
- develop partnerships more with parents to help support children's continuity of care and learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled children's learning records and other relevant documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written feedback.
- The inspector discussed childcare practice with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Mary Vandeppeer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder carries out thorough risk assessments to help children play in safety. She clearly knows her responsibility to keep children safe and she is aware of the procedures to follow, should she have any concerns about their well-being and welfare. She also understands how to identify any risk from extreme behaviour and views. The childminder works in partnership with parents well overall. She continues to develop her relationship with parents to help ensure they receive regular information about their children's time with her and their achievements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a range of toys and activities that meets children's learning needs and helps make sure their good progress is sustained. For example, children thoroughly enjoy and engage in creating a pasta collage, using glue to carefully position the pasta shapes. Children love playing musical instruments and singing. They enjoy moving to the music and are keen to show how well they dance. The childminder's planning caters for children who like to venture into the garden. They play with the sand and, because it is quite damp, they mould firm shapes with their hands. This leads to talk about where sand can be found and what else sand is used for. The childminder helps children develop their language, listening, literacy and numeracy skills in preparation for their move on to nursery and school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy physical play and enjoy being physical in the garden or during visits to local parks on a daily basis. They are happy playing together with cars and a road mat. They give each other space as they push the cars around. Overall, children respond well to the childminder's requests. For example, when she praises them as they tidy away, they beam. She promotes their self-esteem well. Children's behaviour is good. For example, younger children sometimes show frustration with their developing abilities, and these situations are handled well by the childminder and children calm down quickly. They are gaining an awareness of healthy lifestyles. For example, they choose from a range of balanced and nutritious snacks and learn why it is important to wash their hands, especially before eating.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have strong characters and are confident and outgoing individuals. They are eager to explore and experience the various toys and resources. Children are gaining an understanding of how to stay safe. They practise the emergency evacuation procedure regularly with the childminder. Overall, children make good progress in their learning and development and are gaining skills needed for the next stage in their lives.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400336
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1068969
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	15 April 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives in Dartford, Kent. The childminder operates her service all day on Monday to Friday for most of the year, with the exception of bank holidays and family holidays.

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