

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 July 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 settled and confident in the childminder's care. For instance, they are aware of routines and are eager to help, such as getting out their changing mat and laying down ready for their nappy to be changed.
- The childminder keeps her safeguarding training up to date and is clear about the signs and symptoms that may highlight a concern. She is aware of the action to take and whom to contact if she has any concerns about a child's welfare.
- The childminder develops positive relationships with parents. For example, she provides them with detailed information about the activities their children take part in, to help support home learning. Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points.
- Children have a wide range of experiences to support them to develop their social skills. For example, they attend music and play groups where they are able to interact with other children and adults.
- The childminder uses effective systems to help her monitor children's progress. She observes and assesses their play, which helps to identify gaps in learning. The childminder plans activities based on children's interests and stage of development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder does not give children sufficient time to think about and explore activities before intervening.
- The childminder misses opportunities to support older children to pursue their interest in mark making further, to help develop their early writing skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities children have to independently investigate and explore the range of experiences on offer
- review and improve the opportunities for older children to practise and develop their early writing skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder observed children and discussed the learning that took place.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the daily routine and practice, and discussed the organisation and management of the childminding service with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including safeguarding policies and procedures, and children's learning and development information.
- The inspector read letters of reference from parents to take account of their views.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder carries out thorough risk assessments to help keep the environment safe and secure. Children learn how to identify hazards and manage risks for themselves. For example, younger children turn around and go down the step backwards to access the garden. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder reflects on the service she provides and takes into account the views of parents and children to help her improve her practice. She undertakes a range of professional development to keep her practice up to date. For example, she completes online safeguarding training and meets with other early years professionals to share good practice. The childminder has a good understanding of how to work with other professionals to support children moving on to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children develop strong communication and language skills. For example, the childminder makes good use of repetition and commentary while children play to help extend their vocabulary. She provides children with opportunities to learn an additional language. She talks to children in French and English and has dual signs around the home to support children to learn a second language. For example, all children point to the snail and say 'snail' while older children also repeat the word 'escargot'. All children receive praise and encouragement for their attempts and achievements, which helps support their confidence. The childminder supports children to learn the names of colours and to enjoy matching colours of objects around them. Children develop an interest in early reading. For instance, they listen to stories and help with lifting the flaps in the books to see what is hiding underneath.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children to lead a healthy lifestyle. For example, she prepares nutritious home-cooked meals and encourages the children to practise using cutlery when eating meals. Children enjoy daily opportunities to exercise, such as using the slide in the garden as well as going to parks and indoor play gyms to practise their physical skills. Children enjoy being part of the wider community and exploring. In particular, they like using public transport and visiting the library and other local attractions. Children's behaviour is appropriate to their age and they learn how to take turns and share. For instance, they learn how to share the see-saw to enable it to move up and down.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy practising new skills, such as using large tweezers to pick up pine cones. Children have good opportunities to develop their interest in the world around them. For example, they use magnifying glasses to look at the mini-beasts they find in the garden and look in books to see if they can identify the creatures. Children learn to respect their own and others' differences, and they display a strong sense of belonging. They gain the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and the move on to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY489295
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1013302
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2015 and lives in Ashford, Kent. She provides care from Monday to Friday, from 7.15am to 5.45pm, for most of the year.

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