

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 July 2017

Previous inspection date

7 May 2015

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 children with a stimulating environment, where they have plenty of space to play and a good range of resources and toys to interact with.
- The childminder and her assistants have a good knowledge of how to safeguard children. They are aware of the action to take and who to contact should they have any concerns regarding children's welfare.
- Children and babies are settled and have formed close bonds with the childminder and her assistants. For example, babies are happy to explore and return for a reassuring cuddle when needed.
- All children are happy and have a strong sense of belonging. They enjoy interacting with friends and talking about past events, such as walks in the countryside.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of the children and the support they require. She completes thorough assessments of children's development and has a clear picture of the progress of individual children. Children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder has strong links with other early years professionals to provide continuity of care and learning for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to develop her assistants' good knowledge and skills to ensure they challenge and extend children's learning to the highest levels.
- The childminder does not ensure that older children have independent access to a range of reading and writing materials to develop further their interest in literacy.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to support the assistants to develop their knowledge and skills, to ensure that teaching is constantly of the highest standard and extends children's learning further
- review and improve the opportunities older children have to gain a better understanding that print carries meaning and to practise their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- The inspector observed the daily routine and practice, and discussed how the childminder supports her assistants, and organises and manages her service.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records, and safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the assistants and children, and read comments from parents to gain 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 confidently meets the requirements of the early years foundation stage. She ensures that her assistants fully understand the policies and procedures of the setting to maintain children's well-being. The childminder and her assistants provide close supervision and monitor the children constantly to provide a secure environment where they can explore safely. The childminder keeps her knowledge and skills up to date, supports her assistants and encourages them to complete training. For example, she carries out research on the internet and talks to her assistants about updates to safeguarding practices. The childminder regularly informs parents about their children's progress. For instance, she makes use of daily diaries and discussions to exchange information about activities and update changes in care routines. The childminder reflects on the service she provides to help identify strengths and areas for improvement. The childminder has addressed the recommendation from her previous inspection well. For example, parents now inform the childminder of 'wow' moments from children's achievements at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children make good progress in their speech development. For example, they enjoy playing shops and talk with the assistants about what they are 'buying', as they place the items in their baskets. The childminder and assistants makes good use of skilful questions to introduce mathematical language into children's play, such as counting balls with children as well as supporting them to use money to pay for their purchases. Children enjoy being creative and joining in messy play. For instance, they explore patterns and draw faces in the shaving foam.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children grow in confidence and develop their independence. For example, children butter their own toast at snack time. They have opportunities to exercise in the well-resourced garden areas where they are able to use a range of climbing equipment and have space to run around and play with balls. Children learn about the importance of a healthy diet. For example, the childminder talks to them about healthy foods and provides them with nutritious food at mealtimes, taking into account any dietary requirements. Children gain a good awareness of their local community, in particular, they enjoy walks in the countryside where they frequently stop for a picnic.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are active learners who enjoy playing cooperatively. For example, they collect the balls in the garden and happily take turns in throwing them at a target. Children develop their physical skills and demonstrate good control and coordination. They are confident, polite and kind to their friends. Children learn about diversity, and respect and value others' differences. All children are acquiring the skills needed for the next stage in their learning and move on to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399567
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1094056
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	7 May 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Woodnesborough, near Sandwich, Kent. She provides care on weekdays from 7am to 6pm, for most of the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. She employs three assistants. The childminder and one assistant hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3. One assistant is a qualified teacher.

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