

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 October 2017

Previous inspection date

10 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder works extremely well with her co-childminder to continually reflect and develop their setting even further. They have an excellent understanding of their strengths and meticulously plan areas to strengthen opportunities continually for children and families.
- Children of all ages are highly confident and like making choices for themselves. For example, young children choose what they would like for snack and have the confidence to voice their thoughts and not to be swayed by the choices of others.
- The childminder has an extremely sharp focus on helping children to learn new skills. She ensures that she plans activities to incorporate the needs of all children so they each benefit immensely from each learning opportunity.
- Children make excellent progress in their learning and development and often exceed expectations for their age. Children are very active learners and have highly positive attitudes to learning.
- The childminder considers all aspects of the learning environment exceptionally well. All resources are sourced with meticulous detail to create an extremely child-focused play space. For example, there are extensive role-play facilities and children can move between 'the shop' and house to follow their imaginations.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to further extend the excellent opportunities for children to be independent.

Inspection activities

- The inspector read written feedback from parents and considered their views.
- The inspector jointly observed an activity with the childminder and discussed children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children, the childminder and her co-childminder during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector reviewed documentation, such as policies and procedures and children's learning records.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder has excellent links with parents, who receive extensive feedback about their children's learning. For example, she regularly invites parents to spend time at her setting and observe their children playing, and to community events. The childminder is extremely careful to ensure that these times are planned so all children in her care can benefit from having a parent or carer take part. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder place a high emphasis on children's safety and welfare. She is extremely secure in her knowledge on what to do if she has concerns about children in her care. The childminder is highly committed to continually develop her skills, such as through extensive discussions with her co-childminder, detailed personal research and training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The qualified childminder precisely monitors children's learning and has excellent knowledge of their individual abilities and the overall progress of all children. For instance, she is extremely accurate at tracking children's development, using the information to ensure that her curriculum planning is highly effective. Young children are skilled communicators. For example, they engage very well in conversation with each other and the childminder about what they like and ask them to share their play. The childminder has an extremely secure understanding of how children learn to write. For instance, she helps children to build their physical abilities first to be ready to use the writing equipment and slowly introduces them to letters at their own level of interest.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The nurturing childminder helps young children to have an excellent understanding of how to share. For example, she helps them to think about other resources they could exchange with babies so they can have a turn with the toys they have. Children have an extensive range of opportunities to learn about different people in the world around them. For instance, the childminder carefully plans events, such as trips to visit the elderly, to help children socialise with a wide range of people. The childminder and her co-childminder place an extremely high emphasis on supporting children to eat healthily. For example, their menus are meticulously planned and based on current research about nutritious and balanced food for children. Very occasionally, the childminder misses the opportunity to extend children's excellent independence skills even further.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are very well prepared for their next stage of learning at pre-school or school. They approach activities with great enthusiasm and are highly motivated learners. For example, they are extremely engaged in exploring leaves and crayons in their own way and shows excellent levels of concentration for their age. Children develop significantly strong bonds with each other and are highly sociable.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY384168
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1093643
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	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Penenden Heath, Maidstone, Kent. She offers care from 7am to 6pm, for most of the year. The childminder works with a co-childminder. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. She has an early years qualification at level 3.

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