

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 October 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 has an excellent knowledge of child development and demonstrates outstanding teaching and care practices. This contributes to children's excellent progress, emotional well-being and early independence skills.
- The childminder listens attentively to babies' vocalisations, children's comments and questions extremely well. The development of communication and language skills is highly effective throughout daily routines and everyday activities children undertake.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. The childminder communicates daily with parents and shares precise details about their children's learning, enabling an outstanding two-way flow of information to support home learning.
- The childminder knows the children in her care extremely well. She offers a relaxed, informal approach to learning that takes into account the individual personalities of the children.
- The childminder is passionate about her work and committed to delivering an exceptional service. She involves the parents and children in her self-evaluation process and identifies her strengths and any key areas for improvements.
- The childminder provides a stimulating, interesting environment where children easily self-select their chosen activities. The outdoors area and daily outings offer a wealth of opportunities for children to develop their physical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop continuous professional development opportunities to enhance the already excellent practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of the childminder's interactions with the children.
- The inspector looked at range of documentation, including risk assessments, key policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through letters and written questionnaires.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and her plan to develop her provision.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has an extensive knowledge of child protection issues and knows the procedure to follow if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. She has a detailed policy, which she keeps current and relevant with updates from the local authority safeguarding team. The childminder effectively uses a wealth of self-reflection tools to audit and improve her practice. For example, she updates her practice through training, shares good practice with other professionals and researches the internet. The childminder has identified an area for improvement and has devised an ongoing programme of training to enable her to continue to develop her already excellent practice. There is excellent consultation with parents and children, for instance, parent and children questionnaires to support her to evaluate her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder uses high-quality observations of children's play to make highly accurate assessments of children's progress. She rigorously monitors these assessments to detect any gaps in learning. This helps her to know exactly how to support each child's development to help them achieve the very best they can. The childminder expertly uses each activity to promote and extend children's development in multiple areas of learning. For example, she uses a play dough activity to encourage children's speech as they recall a birthday party while making candles and cakes, also extending their physical development. She then develops their mathematical skills by adding numbers, and children match the cakes to the numbers. The childminder continuously supports children's communication skills. For example, she teaches babies signing to help them to communicate and allow their needs to be known.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are highly attached to the childminder. Her warm and caring approach soothes children and she very ably recognises when they are tired or hungry. The childminder regularly praises the children's effort. She displays their artwork and photographs of their play and develops their sense of belonging. She uses opportunities at mealtimes to support and develop children's understanding about the food they eat. They talk about food that would be treats and grow fruits and vegetables in the garden. Through activities, books and stories, the childminder supports children's learning and understanding about different religions and beliefs. Children enjoy many interesting play experiences and outings that support their physical development, knowledge of the local environment and nature.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children are exceptionally well prepared for their eventual move on to school. They are incredibly independent, curious and motivated to learn. They concentrate and persevere in tasks alone and learn good hygiene and self-care routines. Babies develop excellent physical skills and they crawl and pull themselves up on the furniture.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY492942
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1029492
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2015 and lives in Lydden, near Dover, Kent. She operates Monday to Thursday from 8am to 5pm during term time and from Tuesday to Thursday during school holidays. The childminder holds qualified teacher status. She receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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