

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 March 2018

Previous inspection date

27 October 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 has met the recommendations set at her last inspection to maintain good-quality provision. She uses self-evaluation and professional development well to continually improve her practice and children's learning.
- The childminder extends children's interests effectively and provides a good range of toys and play experiences that helps them to progress well. Children show good levels of motivation, for example, as they concentrate and ask to repeat a matching game.
- The childminder is a good role model and encourages children to be polite and respectful. Children engage in purposeful activity and behave well.
- Children learn about keeping healthy. For example, they enjoy being active outdoors as they use ride-on toys and talk about healthy foods and having milk at bedtime.
- The childminder forms warm relationships with children to encourage their emotional well-being. Children respond well to her ongoing praise and encouragement, and show that they feel settled and secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently build on children's understanding of simple addition and subtraction, to help them make higher rates of progress in this aspect of learning.
- The childminder does not take all opportunities to extend children's interest in letters and sounds, to help them further develop their pre-reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities to challenge children to explore simple addition and subtraction, to further encourage their mathematical skills
- strengthen children's interest in letters and the sounds they represent, to further develop their early literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder at convenient times throughout the visit, including to jointly discuss the effectiveness of some of the activities.
- The inspector took the views of parents into account, through their written comments.
- The inspector spoke to children to find out what they like best about their time with the childminder.
- The inspector looked around the childminder's home and garden, and discussed safeguarding procedures with her.
- The inspector sampled documentation and records, including policies and procedures, accident records, and information to demonstrate the suitability of adults living on the premises.

Inspector

Stephanie Graves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm and knows how to refer any concerns about their welfare. She has updated her safeguarding knowledge to ensure she knows how to recognise and react to different situations that may place children in danger. She monitors children's progress well to identify and close any gaps in their learning. She knows the children well and readily extends their ideas and interests. She works well with parents and the other early years settings that children attend, to help provide children with good, consistent learning experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gets down to the children's level to play with them and engages them in different learning experiences. She asks interesting questions to encourage children to think and respond and develop their ideas, particularly in role play. For example, she asks them if she can have a pudding as they pretend to make her a meal. Children ask if she would like a little spoon or a big one, and whether she would like some pitta bread and marshmallows. They tell her she has made a very good choice as they represent real scenarios through their play. The childminder encourages children to test out new ideas, for example, as they discover how to expel air from a plastic toy. They try this against a curtain and also some flour in a bowl. The childminder skilfully encourages them to try pointing the opening in different directions to see the different effects. Children discover that the flour blows away more successfully if they hold the toy closer to it.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is calm and reassuring, and helps children to develop good levels of confidence and self-esteem. Conversation flows easily and children show that they are confident and secure in her care. The childminder is a good role model. She encourages children to adopt good manners and children naturally respond, for example, by saying 'you're welcome' when she thanks them for something. Children happily talk about their families and their favourite activities, such as playing with play dough and painting. They are curious, confident and develop good levels of independence ready for starting school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children, including those for whom the childminder receives funding, make good progress. They show great interest in practising their early writing skills. For example, they draw pictures of animals and confidently explain, 'That's going to be his hair and this is going to be his tongue.' They are imaginative and enjoy engaging the childminder in their role play, for example, as they pretend to make her drink a 'magic potion' and turn her into a frog. Children develop good exploratory skills and are inquisitive learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	125941
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	1125015
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	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 October 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996. She lives in Dartford, Kent. The childminder operates her service on Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6.30pm, for most of the year. She is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to three-year-old children. She holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

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