

Childminder report

1 Lees Cottages, Lees Road, Yalding, MAIDSTONE, Kent ME18 6DE



Inspection date	3 September 2018
Previous inspection date	9 December 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Since the previous inspection, the childminder has improved her range of interactive and technology resources, to help children develop a better understanding of modern technology. She has also reviewed her partnership with parents and this is now more effective in helping the continuation of care and learning for children.
- Children swiftly settle in the homely and friendly environment. They are content, happy and eager to learn.
- Children develop strong and affectionate bonds with the childminder. They learn to understand and follow different routines, and know the boundaries.
- The childminder has a good understanding of individual children's needs and interests. She uses this knowledge to plan a range of activities they enjoy.
- The childminder manages children's behaviour well and helps them develop an understanding of what is acceptable and how to be patient.
- The childminder observes and assesses children well. She identifies the gaps in their learning. Children get the support they need to help them make good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently organise and present resources in a way that helps and supports children to make independent choices in their play.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not provide enough opportunities to further support children in their early understanding of mathematical concepts; for instance, measuring and capacity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to manage more tasks for themselves to build on their independence further
- increase opportunities for children to explore and raise further their awareness about the use of mathematics in everyday play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of practice and its impact on children's care and learning.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with children during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including training certificates and evidence of suitability checks.
- The inspector took account of parents' comments and the childminder's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Mary Van De Peer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder displays a clear understanding of her responsibility to be alert to and report any concerns she has about children's well-being and welfare. The childminder ensures that she keeps up to date regarding current practices. She meets up regularly with other childminders, and they share any new information to help them provide better quality childcare. The childminder routinely seeks the views of parents and children. This enables her to make any changes to improve her practice further. Partnerships with other providers, who share the care of the children she minds, are good. This helps to support children's continuity of care, learning and teaching. The childminder monitors children's learning consistently and notices when they need extra help.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's development is observed, assessed and tracked regularly. The childminder is aware of children's interests and favourite activities, and provides for these well. For example, she blows bubbles, as she knows children love to chase and pop them. Children also love to pick ripe tomatoes, growing in the childminder's garden, to feed the pet tortoises. They are learning how to respect nature and what living things need to survive. The youngest children enjoy searching for suitable resources so that they can position small cars and watch them travel down the slopes. They love to catch them at the base. This helps children further develop their physical skills to aid their future writing abilities. The childminder knows how important it is to promote children's communication and language skills. For example, she talks to the children about what they are doing, they respond well and learn new words. Children enjoy the choice of activities available. These include books that fully occupy the youngest children as they talk about the pictures that are familiar to them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thrive in the nurturing environment. Children's behaviour is good. They know what is expected of them and are familiar with certain routines. For instance, children know where the resources they like are kept and where they sit for snacks and meals. Children's health is promoted well. For example, children regularly spend time outside in the fresh air and often walk in local fields and orchards. They visit parks and toddler groups and this helps to contribute positively to their emotional and social development. The childminder attends to the individual needs of the children well. She praises their achievements and understands the importance of developing their self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they need for future learning and starting school. They show they are inquisitive learners. Children display an interest in the world around them and enjoy exploring their environment. Younger children are gaining in confidence in counting groups of objects and recognise many colours. They are excited as they take part in activities that interest them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	115214
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063718
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	9 December 2015

The childminder registered in 2000. She lives in Yalding, Maidstone, Kent. The childminder offers flexible childcare from Monday to Friday, for most of the year, excluding bank holidays.

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