

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 August 2018
Previous inspection date	26 November 2014

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

- The childminder knows children's individual personalities well. She establishes secure and trusting relationships with them. Children have positive levels of self-esteem.
- The childminder makes good use of the local environment to build on children's learning. Children visit a wide range of places of interest with her, such as the beach and woodlands.
- All children have good opportunities to develop their early writing skills to support their future learning. For instance, children write their names with confidence.
- The childminder reviews her practice regularly. For example, she evaluates the day's events and uses her findings to support her future activity plans. This helps her keep children interested and motivated to learn.
- Children are confident to share their ideas. The childminder supports their listening and speaking skills well. For example, she asks thought provoking questions and gives children time to think and then respond.
- Children have good opportunities to explore and investigate. For example, they learn about life cycles, as they excitedly watch their caterpillars flourish into butterflies.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder works well overall with parents, she does not consistently encourage them to share children's achievements from home to strengthen the continuity of their learning.
- The childminder misses some opportunities to extend children's understanding and respect of other people's similarities and differences in the wider world further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage parents to share children's achievements from home more regularly to strengthen the consistency of children's care and learning experiences
- extend children's opportunities to learn about and respect other people's similarities and differences outside of their own communities and religious beliefs even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at the written documentation, including a sample of the policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, children and parents, and considered their views.

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder ensures that she keeps up to date with new ideas and builds on her skills and knowledge even further. For example, she regularly carries out independent reading and research to learn about early years updates, and liaises with other childminders to share activity ideas. The childminder uses the ideas to develop her practice and help keep children engaged in new learning and play experiences. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of the safeguarding and child protection procedures to follow, including knowing whom to contact to seek advice. The childminder helps protect children's safety and welfare effectively. Children learn how to keep themselves and others safe. For instance, they learn about road safety and practise how to cross roads safely during role-play activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder closely monitors children's individual progress. This supports her to highlight and address any gaps in their development promptly. She provides children with good support to help them catch up in their learning quickly. The childminder effectively helps prepare children for their future move to school. For example, children are encouraged to be independent as they find their own belongings and choose their own play with confidence. The childminder skilfully builds on children's ideas. For example, children who enjoy talking about animals go on to visit the zoo and the farm to explore different types of animals with the childminder. Children make clay models of their favourite animals from their visits.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a positive role model, and children are polite and behave well. For example, they say 'please' and 'thank you' with no reminders. Children are happy to play together in team games. They share and take turns with resources with good levels of maturity. Children gain good physical skills. For example, they negotiate equipment, such as climbing frames and balancing beams. Children develop a good understanding of the importance of healthy eating. For example, they are keen to help prepare healthy snacks that they have helped to grow, such as tomatoes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages make good progress in relation to their individual starting points. Children develop good early mathematical skills to support their future learning. For instance, they count with confidence and play interesting games where they independently recognise numbers. Children enjoy a wide range of reading materials. Younger children enjoy looking at books with puppets and older children read simple words with confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337292
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10060628
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2014

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives in Gravesend, Kent. The childminder cares for children Monday to Friday, from 7am to 7pm, all year round. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

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