

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 December 2018
Previous inspection date	11 November 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

This provision is good

- The childminder provides a wide range of interesting and challenging activities, and helps children make good progress through their next steps of learning.
- Children form good attachments with the childminder. She is kind, caring and encourages independence. Children are eager for her to join in with their play. They enjoy showing her how they can do things for themselves.
- The childminder shows a commitment to improving her knowledge and skills. For instance, she reflects on her training experiences and brings new ideas into the setting.
- The childminder observes and assesses children's progress. She shares this information with parents who are involved in their children's learning.
- Children are developing into confident learners. The childminder consistently uses simple techniques, such as counting and grouping. This helps children to develop key mathematical skills at an early age.
- The childminder does not make the best possible use of information from other settings about children's learning to gain a more in-depth understanding of children's development.
- The childminder does not monitor children's progress as closely as she could, to better extend their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen communication with other settings, around children's learning achievements to provide more consistency in their learning
- develop more rigorous monitoring of children's progress to ensure timely interventions, to support children's ongoing development further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed documentation, such as children's learning records, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed parents' written comments regarding the childminder's practice and took account of these.
- The inspector observed the childminder and discussed children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching.

Inspector

Anna Fisk

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of child protection and areas which might cause her concern. She has updated her understanding of the procedures to report any concerns and is confident in her role in helping to protect children. The childminder ensures she shares new learning and information with her assistant to ensure a focus on professional development. The childminder has learnt about supporting children with transitions to school to further develop her practice. The childminder assesses children's progress to help her provide an exciting and challenging environment and enable her to observe their stages of learning. She successfully evaluates her practice and has identified areas for ongoing improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a wide range of stimulating activities that is well thought out and meets children's individual interests and abilities. She gives children plenty of choices and encourages them to plan and develop their play. For example, children are confident to tell the childminder which resources they think would be best suited to the activity. The childminder plans creative learning activities, such as a sensory play dough activity. Children concentrate on the process and enjoy exploring the different possibilities, adding their own creative twist. The childminder extends children's vocabulary, for instance, by introducing simple mathematical language, such as 'halved'. She builds effectively on children's already strong communication skills. For example, the childminder supports children carefully, encouraging them to listen and allowing time to share their experiences and ideas within the group.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder creates a relaxed and active play environment where children have made good friends. The mix of ages works successfully and children play well together. They demonstrate politeness and kindness as they play. The childminder actively encourages children to listen to each other and to show good manners. Children are very independent, organising their snack and lunchtime table. The childminder builds on their understanding of healthy lifestyles, for example, she provides children with healthy snacks. Children behave well. They benefit from being able to enjoy regular walks. They learn about the world around them as they get to help care for the family pets. Children benefit from a variety of interesting trips, for instance, pumpkin picking. These experiences help children to develop an understanding of the wider world. The childminder maintains a safe and welcoming environment.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills they need for their future learning. They enjoy learning and are well motivated. Children are confident speakers and happily engage in conversations with adults. Children are independent and manage their personal care needs well. They enjoy learning together, for example, exploring the effects on toys as they run out of batteries. Children enjoy taking on responsibilities and understand the rules in the setting, such as tidying up before lunch.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY433773
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063820
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	22
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Maidstone, Kent. She operates from Monday to Friday all year round. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and employs an assistant.

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