

Childminder report

Inspection date	10 January 2019
Previous inspection date	30 July 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 regularly assesses and monitors all children's progress. She quickly notices if children are falling behind their peers. She understands how to put interventions in place to minimise any gaps in their learning and development.
- The childminder plans interesting and stimulating activities that fully engage children's fascination and imagination. They are excited by new experiences, such as playing with pretend snow.
- The childminder has developed good partnerships with parents. She keeps them informed about their children's achievements and their care. For example, they have daily conversations and regularly share observations.
- The childminder is a positive role model for children's behaviour. She uses gentle reminders and praise to teach young children how to play successfully alongside each other. Children are well behaved and polite.
- The childminder maintains a safe environment. She builds strong relationships with the children and is vigilant to their individual needs and feelings. Children confidently ask questions and seek support to extend their own learning.
- The childminder does not fully explore ways to promote opportunities for children to develop a wider understanding of people and customs beyond their immediate experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on current opportunities children have to develop a wider understanding about diversity and an appreciation of different beliefs and ways of life.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector took parents' views into account by speaking with them and reading their written comments.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including children's records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder works effectively with her co-childminder to identify any areas for improvement in her practice and the environment. For example, she has recently created an area for children to grow flowers and fruit in the outdoor area. She regularly updates her training in child protection and safeguarding and knows of potential issues that might put children at risk. For example, she is aware of how children may be exposed to radical or extreme views. She knows how to report child protection concerns and allegations. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder shares information between the school that children attend and their parents to help maintain continuity in their care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her knowledge of what children can do and what they know to plan stimulating and challenging activities. Children's developing independence is encouraged well, for example when they tidy up and select new toys. She develops their thinking skills and helps them learn new words as she joins in with their conversations. She understands when to step in to extend children's learning and when to allow them time to make their own discoveries. Children learn to use mathematics, including measuring and counting, in meaningful ways. For instance, they count how many packets of powder and how many jugs of water are needed to make pretend snow. The childminder supports their interest in writing in innovative ways, such as making marks through the 'snow' with their fingers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they are settled and have made strong attachments to the childminder. They move freely and confidently around the environment, independently selecting activities and seeking new experiences. For example, children decide to take out musical instruments and dance while the childminder helps them sing their favourite songs. Opportunities are provided for children to explore the local environment and learn about the natural world. For example, children visit a farm where they learn about goats. Children learn to keep themselves safe and healthy, such as when they use the large climbing equipment at the park and run around in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are developing the skills they need to support their future learning, including when they go to school. They delight in using small clipboards with pens to draw and copy numbers. They remain focused and absorbed by different activities and demonstrate good abilities in solving problems. For instance, they spend time working out how to make toy cars travel faster across a roadway they have built together. They learn to respect and understand the views of their peers, for example by sharing the toys and taking turns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY369816
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063791
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	4
Date of previous inspection	30 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Maidstone, Kent. She operates from 7am to 6pm all year, Monday to Friday, with the exception of bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. She works alongside another registered childminder and holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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