

Childminder report

Inspection date	17 January 2019
Previous inspection date	21 July 2016

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 demonstrates a good understanding of working in partnership with parents. For example, they have daily discussions and parents are able to easily access their child's learning records on an online system. This helps to support a consistent approach to children's learning.
- The childminder makes good use of daily opportunities to teach children mathematical skills. For example, she provides collections of animals for children to count and refers to pictures to help them learn number recognition. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children are happy and well cared for in a safe and welcoming environment. They build trusting relationships with the childminder and develop good friendships.
- Children behave well. The childminder acts as a positive role model to children. She encourages the use of good manners and offers plenty of praise during activities, to help build children's confidence and promote their positive self-esteem.
- The childminder seeks support from other local childminders. They reflect together on their work with children and share good practice. This helps the childminder to make continual improvements to her provision.
- The childminder sometimes does not give children enough time to think and respond, and express their own ideas, such as when answering questions.
- The childminder helps children to develop their independence, although she has not considered additional ways to enhance this even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children more time to think to help them consider their responses and ideas
- plan more ways to develop children's independence, to enhance their development even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the support for children's learning indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector observed snack time and personal hygiene routines.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder and reviewed her systems for monitoring children's progress.
- The inspector read the childminder's safeguarding policy and complaints procedure.
- The inspector took account of parents' comments.

Inspector

Jane Winnan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of her role and responsibilities to protect children's welfare. She is aware of the signs and symptoms that would indicate a child is at risk of harm. The childminder has clear procedures to follow to report any such concerns. She checks her home thoroughly to help identify and minimise any hazards. The childminder is a qualified teacher and regularly attends training to update her knowledge and improve outcomes for children. She has established strong links with the local pre-school, which helps to provide consistency in children's learning. Parents report positively on their children's experiences and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder monitors children's progress to check for any gaps in their learning and accurately identifies where they are doing well. She uses her knowledge of children's individual needs to plan interesting and challenging activities to help them learn. For example, she placed a farm and a range of animals and toy vehicles in a tray of cereal for children to explore and investigate. The childminder follows the children's requests and interests well. She makes the most of opportunities to build on children's vocabulary and help them to learn new words, such as 'sprinkle' and 'scary'. The childminder looks at books with children and uses these well to extend their knowledge. For example, she teaches them about the names of different animals and the sounds that they make, such as 'walrus' and 'gorilla'. Children are confident and motivated to learn.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder successfully promotes children's well-being. She collects good-quality information from parents before children start. This contributes to helping children settle quickly. Children develop a strong sense of belonging. For example, they see photographs of themselves and friends engaged in a wide range of activities. The childminder encourages children to manage their own hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before snack time. Children have opportunities to be active, including spending time outdoors every day, which helps to support their good health and physical development. The childminder helps children to develop good social skills and learn about the community in which they live. For example, they visit local community groups and learn about the similarities and differences between themselves and others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn useful skills that help them prepare for the next stage in their learning. They learn how to take turns and be part of a group, for instance when they share a doctor's case and try on dressing-up clothes. Children tidy up after themselves. For example, they enjoy using a dustpan and brush to sweep up the cereal on the floor. Children develop an interest in books and independently name animals they see. They draw freely and excitedly give meaning to the marks they make, such as a 'crocodile'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479987
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10076196
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	21 July 2016

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Gravesend, Kent. The childminder is qualified as a primary school teacher. She offers her service for most of the year, Monday to Thursday, all day. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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