

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 February 2019
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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

- Children develop strong bonds with the childminder from the start. They thoroughly enjoy her company and are eager for her to join in their play. Children settle quickly and easily as the childminder is kind, caring and attentive to their needs.
- The childminder develops good relationships with parents. She shares ongoing information with them about children's learning and care needs. Parents provide the childminder with information about what children do at home and this helps to support continuity in children's care and learning.
- The childminder is ambitious and enthusiastic. She welcomes feedback from parents and children, which she uses to help review her practice. The childminder is confident in what she does well and identifies clear areas for development. This helps her to ensure she maintains good levels of care.
- The childminder knows the children well and has a good understanding of their individual abilities. She makes regular assessments of what they know and can do and swiftly targets any emerging gaps in their development. Children show pride in their achievements and make good progress in their learning.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not give enough consideration to ways in which she can further support children's speaking and language skills.
- The childminder does not always provide children with a broad range of outdoor opportunities to further support the learning of those children who prefer to play outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on supporting children to develop their speech and language skills even further
- enhance the already good learning environment outdoors to further engage and support children who prefer to play and learn outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children during play sessions and mealtimes.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector viewed parents' written comments regarding the childminder's practice and took account of these.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including the daily register and children's learning and assessment records.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of a planned activity with the childminder.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a clear focus on ensuring children are safe and well protected. She knows the children well and is confident in recognising and recording concerns, such as any behaviours which are out of character. The childminder uses information gained from others to help her reflect on her skills and consider how these could be further enhanced. She seeks training opportunities and advice from other professionals to help her to implement positive changes to practice. For example, through safeguarding training, the childminder has developed a stronger understanding of current safeguarding issues and requirements. Parents comment that the childminder is 'brilliant' and children are 'happy, safe and secure' in her care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is a good teacher. She recognises how and when to involve herself in children's play, to further support their learning. For instance, young children show their emerging early writing skills as they use pens to make marks. The childminder offers lots of praise at their efforts as she links the marks they make to letters in their names. This encourages children to keep practising their developing skills. The childminder completes accurate observations of children's play, which helps her to recognise their achievements and assess their progress. She provides well-planned activities and experiences which link to children's interests and abilities. For example, children are totally engaged as they freely explore a wide range of resources during craft activities. The childminder uses well-considered questions to encourage children to think and talk about the different colours and sizes of stickers. Children show emerging mathematical understanding as they recognise the big and small stickers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming environment. She organises her home to enable children to lead their own play. For example, resources are stored at children's height, which allows them to select what they want to play with independently. Children behave well. They are respectful of those around them and play cooperatively with their peers. Children are effectively supported to develop a good understanding of how to manage their own health and hygiene needs. For instance, young children start to recognise when they need a tissue and they ask for help. Without being reminded, they thank the childminder as she hands a tissue to them. The childminder recognises her role in helping children to develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, she provides a good range of healthy food options and children enjoy making their own selections. Children comment that they like the food they are given.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well in relation to their starting points. They develop and practise skills that support their progression to the next stages in their learning. For example, young children show developing coordination as they use knives to cut fruit at snack times. At mealtimes, children are further encouraged to practise these skills as they successfully spread butter onto toast.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY544091
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10093120
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Maidstone, Kent. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday.

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