

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 February 2019
Previous inspection date	20 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
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 is a provision that requires improvement

- The childminder has not always kept her knowledge up to date to ensure she is aware of her responsibilities in keeping children safe.
- The childminder does not consistently engage with parents, to help all adults effectively promote consistency in children's learning.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder is kind and sensitive. Children establish good attachments with her and seek her interactions throughout the day. This helps them to develop confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder provides a well-resourced and interesting environment that effectively supports children to learn through play. She gives them choices of what they want to do throughout the day and praises them often.
- Overall, teaching is good. The childminder's knowledge of how children learn helps her to plan and provide stimulating experiences. Children benefit from the childminder's caring involvement in their play. They make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder is improving her approach to working with parents to gather and exchange information regarding children's needs. This helps to ensure a consistent approach to children's daily care needs.
- The childminder is developing a positive attitude to evaluating her practice. For example, she researches training and works with other childminders to help create new ideas for play experiences.

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 updating professional development to ensure knowledge is updated in line with changes to legislation
- develop further the information sharing with parents, to support consistency in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children during play sessions.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's planning and the childminder's improvement plans.

Inspector
Anna Fisk

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder evaluates her practice. She seeks training opportunities to give her a stronger understanding of current safeguarding issues and requirements. Safeguarding is effective. Overall, the childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to keeping children safe. However, she is not aware of some processes around new legislation. The childminder knows the children and their families well and has a good understanding of the procedures to follow in regard to keeping children safe. She is confident in recognising and recording concerns, for example any behaviours which are out of character. This helps her to protect children's welfare. The childminder considers the views of others to help her evaluate practice. However, parents do not always fully engage with their children's learning to make effective changes to her practice, if required.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder observes children in their play and effectively recognises their interests and achievements. She supports their learning over time and provides a good balance of time to explore and opportunities to teach. Overall, the childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She provides good interactions in children's play to help support them as they discover and develop new skills. For example, the childminder extends children's language as they experiment with babble talk. Young babies enjoy playing with the childminder and they use their emerging physical skills to explore imaginary play. They show excitement as they dance when toys make musical sounds.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder maintains a welcoming, safe and stimulating environment. She is observant and recognises when the play space needs attention to ensure younger children can play safely on the floor. The childminder sets simple rules and is consistently polite and respectful. She shares ideas with parents to support them in managing children's behaviour, and offers this in a kind and sensitive way. Children are keen to see the childminder and they welcome her affection. The childminder quickly recognises when young children become sleepy. She gives cuddles and creates cosy, quiet time. This helps children feel comfortable and safe. The childminder understands the importance of outdoor experiences. She arranges daily outside play, which enables children to explore the world around them. For example, children enjoy walks in the local community and have new experiences attending small groups such as soft-play and toddler groups.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop well from their starting points. They are keen, active learners who enjoy simple challenges. Babies show emerging physical skills as they start to practise dexterity, moving items in and out of small spaces. Children enjoy identifying objects and repeating sounds and new words as they develop their language skills. They receive lots of praise, which encourages them to practise these developing skills again to support the next stages in their development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY433687
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063819
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	20 August 2015

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Boughton Monchelsea, Kent. She operates Monday to Friday throughout the year, from 7am to 7pm.

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