

Childminder report

Inspection date	18 March 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

- The childminder carries out regular risk assessments of her home and when on outings to minimise hazards. This ensures she provides a safe environment for children to play and explore. She makes good use of opportunities to teach children how to keep themselves safe, such as holding hands when crossing the road and out on trips.
- The childminder successfully enhances children's early mathematical skills. For instance, she encourages children to count and teaches the names of shapes they have made with play dough.
- Children learn how to keep themselves healthy. The childminder provides nutritious meals and encourages children to wash their hands prior to eating and after wiping their noses.
- Children have many opportunities to enjoy fresh air and to challenge their physical skills. For instance, they regularly walk to school and frequently use climbing equipment in the local playground.
- Occasionally, during adult-led activities the childminder can be over directive. This means children have less opportunities to express themselves using their own thoughts and ideas.
- The childminder has strong relationships with parents. However, information about children's learning and development is not shared effectively enough. This means parents are not able to fully build on learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children to express themselves freely during adult-led activities, to enable them to express their own thoughts and ideas more effectively
- strengthen information sharing processes with parents to keep them up to date with their child's progress and enable them to fully build on learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector read written feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including suitability of staff and children's records.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Michaela Borland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is confident in her knowledge of child protection issues. She knows the indicators of abuse and neglect and the processes to follow if she has concerns about children's welfare. The childminder has a focused plan for her professional development. She completes online training to keep her knowledge and practice current. This helps her to promote good outcomes for children. The childminder takes account of the views of parents and children when evaluating her provision. She closely monitors children's progress and swiftly identifies any emerging gaps in learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well. For example, she introduces new words and plays games to support their understanding of initial letter sounds. The childminder plans activities that follow children's individual interests, which helps to keep them motivated to learn. She makes good use of observations and assessments to plan for children's next steps in learning. She takes children on a variety of outings, such as to the local market, to enhance their understanding of the world. The childminder successfully supports the development of children's early writing skills. For instance, she shows them how to draw circles in flour with their fingers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment with a range of resources available for children to freely access. She is a good role model and knows the children in her care very well. The childminder forms strong bonds with children, which helps them to feel safe and secure. She provides continual praise and encouragement for every achievement, which successfully promotes children's self-esteem and emotional well-being. Children behave well and demonstrate good social skills. For instance, they consistently use good manners, take turns and share resources. Children are kind to each other and enjoy playing together. For example, they jointly build a tower to see how high it can go before it falls over.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their time with the childminder. They confidently make choices about the toys they want to play with. Children show high levels of independence. For example, they make their own sandwiches at lunchtime and take themselves to the toilet. They develop their small-muscle and hand-to-eye coordination skills. For instance, they enjoy posting activities and building with blocks. All children make good progress from their starting points and develop the key skills they need for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY540398
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10090021
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Dartford, Kent. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm throughout the year, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

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