

Childminder report

Inspection date	21 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 regularly assesses her premises to identify and minimise risks to children. This helps ensure a safe environment for children to play and learn. She positively enhances children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, they have regular fire drills to understand what to do in an emergency.
- Children benefit from a rich range of experiences to develop their understanding of people and communities that are different from themselves. For example, they attend cultural celebrations, such as a Chinese New Year parade, in the local town.
- The childminder successfully builds on children's interests. For example, they have planted bean seeds following a recent fascination with a popular children's story.
- Children have a clear understanding of the rules of the setting. For instance, the childminder regularly talks to them about using kind hands and listening to each other. They behave well and show high levels of respect for each other. This helps to prepare them well for starting school.
- Partnerships with parents are strong and they comment on how supportive the childminder is. However, the childminder does not obtain enough information from parents when children first start, to enable her to plan precisely from the outset.
- The childminder regularly reviews children's development and quickly identifies any emerging issues. However, she does not make full use of external agencies to support children's learning and development to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more information from parents about what their child already knows and can do when they start, to help plan precisely from the outset
- strengthen partnership working with other agencies and professionals to help fully support children's learning and development to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at the areas of the premises used for childminding, including outdoors.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, such as children's observations and assessments, a sample of policies and procedures and training records.

Inspector

Michaela Borland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder evaluates her provision well. She seeks the views of parents and children to help identify areas for improvement. For example, she has recently changed the way she records children's progress, so it is more meaningful to parents. This enables parents to successfully build on learning at home. She attends regular training to keep her skills and knowledge up to date. This helps her to successfully plan activities that meet children's individual learning needs. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands her responsibilities to meet the statutory requirements. She has a robust knowledge of how to protect children from harm and the correct procedures if she has concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She skillfully plans activities to promote development in all areas of learning. For instance, children attend groups, such as singing sessions, which positively promotes their creative and communication skills. The childminder enthusiastically joins in children's play, such as buying items from the pretend shop, which supports them to develop their imaginations. She makes good use of opportunities to extend children's learning. For example, she takes children into the garden to look at the helicopter they can hear in the sky. Children develop their early literacy skills. For instance, they find their name cards to self-register and write their names on their artwork.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy when they arrive and are warmly welcomed by the childminder. They quickly settle and are keen to explore the wide range of resources available for them to independently access. The childminder shares information effectively about children's development with other settings that they attend. This helps to ensure continuity of learning for children. The childminder is a good role model and uses frequent praise and encouragement, which positively enhances children emotional well-being and confidence. Children demonstrate good social skills, such as sharing toys and taking turns. The childminder successfully helps children to keep healthy. For example, she prepares nutritious meals and takes them to the local park to enhance their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn new words, such as 'spine' and 'spiky', as they play. They show high levels of independence. For example, they hang up their coats and older children manage their own personal needs. Children practise their early mathematical skills, such as counting and measuring, during everyday activities. Children are interested and fully engaged with activities. All children make progress from their starting points and acquire the skills they need for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539359
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10089722
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Gravesend, Kent. She operates from 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification. She receives funding for free early education for children aged three and four years.

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