

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 May 2019
Previous inspection date	2 November 2015

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 takes children on regular visits to their wider community. For example, they go to local parks, groups and libraries to help children build an understanding about similarities and differences around them.
- Parents are very happy with the service the childminder provides. They comment that their children are confident, have come on leaps and bounds and that the childminder listens to their views. This helps to provide effective continuity in learning and care.
- The childminder forms good partnerships with other settings children attend. They successfully work together to assist children's emotional well-being and promote a consistent approach in meeting their developmental needs.
- The childminder gains useful information from parents when children first start to be able to cater for their individual abilities. New children settle extremely well and actively engage in activities that stimulate their interest.
- The childminder makes regular observations and assessments to help her plan for children's different stages of learning.
- Children's development is appropriate for their age. However, the childminder's arrangements for monitoring their learning are not as consistently precise as possible to aid children to make even better progress.
- The childminder has not formed a highly effective process to help identify areas of weakness and set targets for improvement in order to develop her practice even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve the processes to monitor children's development to help them make continually high levels of progress
- strengthen the self-evaluation system to help make incisive targeted improvements and develop the quality of the provision even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including suitability checks, qualifications and children's records.
- The inspector took account of parents written views.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector
Sarah Stephens

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a sound understanding of the signs that would cause her concern about a child's welfare and the processes to follow. She knows what to do if there are any allegations made against herself or household members. The childminder has kept her safeguarding practice current. She understands how to recognise and respond to children who are being exposed to extreme ideas or views. The childminder effectively improves her knowledge and skills. For example, she attended schema training that helped her successfully build on children's different ways of learning. The childminder knows where she can access support to help meet children's specific needs, if required.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses good-quality teaching skills that are appropriate for children's individual progress. She effectively builds on children's mathematical development. For instance, she introduces counting and shapes, such as 'star' and 'hexagon', to help develop their skills further. The childminder provides children with positive praise to aid their self-esteem and confidence. She encourages them to persist when problems arise, such as when they try to fit shelves into a toy house. These are important skills children need for their future learning. The childminder successfully supports younger children's growing vocabulary. For example, she builds on their first words, such as 'green car', and then asks them the colour of their parent's car. This helps to fully extend their communication and language development. The childminder reads children's favourite books, such as one about a pig, to help promote their early literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children manage their feelings and emotions. For instance, she offers them gentle reassurance and comfort when they express frustration during activities. The childminder encourages children to share, take turns and gives clear explanations about behavioural expectations. This assists them to understand how to manage their own behaviour and prepare well for their future learning. The childminder supports children's physical health. For example, she provides them with healthy snacks and daily opportunities to be outdoors. Children, including those who have just started at the setting, form secure emotional attachments and positive relationships with the childminder. She gives them extra care and attention, when needed.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, happy and enjoy their time with the childminder. For instance, they interact positively together during lunch and laugh with their friends. Children freely move around, making their own independent choices. They engage in imaginary play and keep their attention in activities, such as small-world resources, for a sustained period of time. This helps to keep their motivation and interest in their learning. Children have opportunities to grow herbs and plants in the garden, which helps their understanding of growth and changes over time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126552
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063732
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2000 and lives in Dartford, Kent. She cares for children Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm, throughout the year. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 childcare qualification.

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