

Childminder report

Inspection date	14 August 2019
Previous inspection date	22 January 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 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 are enthusiastic learners. The childminder successfully plans activities that capture children's interest and help them to make good progress.
- Children behave well, develop good social skills and are considerate to the needs of others. For example, they share out resources fairly and make compromises to enable their friends to complete their games.
- There are effective arrangements to promote children's good health. The childminder teaches them about the importance of good nutrition. In addition, children develop strong physical control and coordination as they enjoy lots of active play.
- The childminder supports children's lively imaginations well as they tell stories, put on shows, or express themselves through singing and dancing. However, she is less effective in encouraging children when they are involved in arts and crafts. Children learn skills such as gluing and sticking, and mixing colours, but their creativity is limited by the childminder's high level of planning.
- The childminder maintains all records required for the safe running of her service, but these are not organised well. Some records lack clarity, and others have minor omissions. This has not had any impact on children's safety to date. The childminder recognises the potential to strengthen her systems to ensure that required written records are as legible as possible, in case they are needed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the support and encouragement for children to explore their own creative ideas, particularly when creating artwork
- review and improve the maintenance of required written records to make sure that the information is consistently clear and legible.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the childminder's home used by children, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interaction of the childminder and children during a range of activities.
- The inspector viewed a range of relevant documentation including records of attendance, medication records and details of children's progress.

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder understands her responsibility to promote children's learning and welfare, and she does this well. She maintains positive relationships with parents and keeps them informed of their children's experiences and progress. The childminder also communicates with other professionals involved in children's care, including nursery staff and school teachers. The childminder keeps her skills and knowledge up to date through training and reading. For example, she has completed training to enhance her understanding of the potential signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. She is aware of the procedure to follow should concerns arise about the well-being of any child. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder monitors children's progress well and, overall, targets her teaching effectively to support all areas of their development. She knows each child's individual interests and plans activities that reflect these. For example, the children thoroughly enjoy putting on performances. The childminder provides a range of dressing-up clothes and acts as an audience, allowing children to act out the stories they create. She also sets out resources specifically aimed at encouraging children to explore and experiment. During the inspection, the children used coloured play dough, candles and paper cases to make elaborate pretend cupcakes. The childminder supported the activity well. She used clear language, appropriate to the understanding of each child, and used the opportunity to skilfully promote children's mathematical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled. They are extremely confident, friendly and welcoming, and play very cooperatively. Older children adapt their games to ensure that younger children can take part, and younger children develop the confidence to share their opinions. The childminder provides experiences for children that help them to learn about the natural environment. For example, children learn about animals, such as whales, and observe seasonal changes in the childminder's garden and on outings. Children also learn about the lives, cultures and traditions of other people. The childminder promotes good hygiene and healthy eating. Children know to wash their hands before eating and speak knowledgeably about which foods are good for them and which should be eaten in moderation.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy their time with the childminder. They develop the independence and emotional security they need to prepare them for their future learning, including nursery and school. Young children enjoying counting, and are becoming confident to identify colours, shapes and sizes. Older children understand how to use more-complex mathematics in practical situations. For example, they organised a game for adults to judge their 'cupcakes', awarding up to 10 points each for presentation and for taste. They were able to use pen and paper to add up the final scores. Children are equally enthusiastic about practising writing and developing their reading skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459606
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10075399
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2016

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Ashford, Kent. She works Monday to Friday for most of the year.

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