

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 November 2019

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children have an exceptionally safe, welcoming and homely environment in which to play. They form close bonds with the childminder, who knows their personalities exceptionally well and is highly skilled at supporting children to settle and feel secure. Children have an outstanding sense of belonging and are extremely confident. For instance, they are deeply engaged and focused for long periods at activities, which helps them make tremendous progress from their starting points.

The childminder provides limitless opportunities for children to explore a wealth of natural resources. For instance, younger children particularly enjoy sensory experiences such as feeling the texture of the coloured rice as they spread it around and fill containers. The children were fascinated by the patterns the rice formed and the sound it made as the childminder sprinkled it onto the tray. Children are inquisitive and highly motivated to learn. For example, they are captivated by the way in which leaf shapes attach to sticky-backed plastic as they create their artwork.

The childminder is extremely skilful in providing high-quality communications and interactions with children. For instance, she introduces descriptive words such as 'squidgy' and 'spikey' as children stick pasta into dough balls to make hedgehogs. The childminder is incredibly adept at introducing new vocabulary to help develop children's language skills in all aspects of their play. Her inspiring practice helps to ensure children have an incredibly strong foundation for their future learning.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Children have immense opportunities to develop an interest in and love of reading from a young age. The childminder recognises the importance of having an environment that is rich in print. She is highly skilled in extending activities. For instance, younger children have picture books set out alongside play activities to support their interest in handling books. Older children make lists to use in the supermarket to find the ingredients they need for their cooking activity. The childminder is extremely talented at incorporating mathematical language in all areas of play, for example counting and looking at positional language as children sing songs and use musical instruments.
- The childminder is exceptionally committed to and passionate about the improvement of her setting. She continuously updates her already excellent knowledge and skills and disseminates her practice to others. For instance, she runs local groups for parents and other professionals which focus on how to use messy play activities to help support children's learning and development. The childminder's past experiences of working as an early years practitioner have had a significant impact on her knowledge, skills and ability to provide an

outstanding environment where children thrive.

- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally focused and highly effective. Parents are very complimentary about the setting, and the support and information they receive from the childminder. She encourages parents to share information with her regularly, which enables her to plan highly focused and innovative activities that link to the children's interests and abilities. The childminder provides children with personalised learning bags to take home and share with their families to enhance their home learning.
- The childminder provides children with an abundance of opportunities to socialise and explore their community. For example, they attend an array of groups and travel on public transport to learn about the world around them. The children particularly enjoy visiting local attractions and the beach to see the wildlife and learn about the changing seasons. The childminder is extremely proficient in incorporating all areas of the early years foundation stage into children's play. For instance, they use sticks in the mud and sand to make marks and develop their early writing skills, and they collect leaves, pebbles and sticks to use in the setting to enrich their play experiences.
- The childminder is an incredibly positive role model who has very high expectations for children's behaviour. She implements highly effective systems to support children to learn about rules and boundaries.
- The childminder teaches children about the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle. For example, they go outside to play in all weathers. They use large equipment and play games to develop their physical skills and learn that exercising is enjoyable.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an extensive knowledge of child protection issues, including wider safeguarding concerns such as the exploitation and radicalisation of children. She confidently explains the signs and symptoms she needs to be aware of that might indicate that a child is at risk of harm. She knows who to contact if she has concerns about a child's safety and welfare. The childminder is aware of the importance of teaching older children about online safety and safe use of the internet, to help them develop an excellent understanding of staying safe. She regularly completes safeguarding training to make sure her excellent child protection knowledge is current, to ensure children are safe and protected from harm.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548920
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10111038
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 7
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Herne Bay, Kent. She operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, for most of the year. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection activities

- During the learning walk, the childminder explained how she sets up the home to meet the children's needs.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a joint activity observation, and the childminder explained the learning taking place.
- The childminder explained how she monitors children's progress.
- Parents wrote letters of reference to inform the inspector about their views on the service they receive.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and looked at photographic evidence the childminder had to show previous activities and visits she has completed with children.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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