

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 January 2020

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	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder facilitates a rich and varied range of activities for children to choose from, inside and outdoors, which captivate their interest. Children are extremely excited to come into the childminder's home. They know the routines exceptionally well and check to see if their friends have registered by counting the number of characters in the small playhouse. The childminder is highly skilled at extending children's learning and encourages them to sound out the letters in their names. She fully embeds literacy into children's play and activities.

Children are curious and develop a sense of awe and wonder about the world. For instance, they collected sticks to use as spikes as they made hedgehogs out of salt dough. The childminder expands children's knowledge and awareness about nature by encouraging them to explore the garden to see where the hedgehogs might live.

Children develop an interest in early mathematics from a young age. The childminder skilfully incorporates the use of numbers into everyday conversations and play. For example, children look at number signs they are using and link them to quantities. Older children use their understanding of counting to sequence numbers from one to 10. The childminder uses highly impressive strategies to help older children develop their understanding of numbers.

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

- The childminder is passionate and exceptionally dedicated about providing high-quality care and learning for all children. She undertakes a wealth of training to ensure she maintains her already outstanding subject knowledge. For instance, she works closely with professionals to ensure she has a highly impressive understanding of the skills older children require for the next stage of their learning. She is incredibly adept at supporting older children with phonics and helping them learn how to form letters as part of early writing development.
- Children have a wealth of opportunities to learn about the world around them. For instance, the childminder takes them to a variety of groups and events to support them to socialise and meet new people from the wider community. The children enjoy using public transport to explore and learn about how to travel around their local area.
- The childminder has robust recruitment and induction procedures in place to ensure any assistants working with her are suitable to do so. She is extremely organised and has an extensive knowledge of how to support her assistant to ensure they are highly skilled. The childminder disseminates her outstanding practise to early years students, through her role as an early years lecturer.
- The partnerships the childminder has built with parents and carers are

exceptionally strong. She keeps parents well informed about their children's learning through regular progress updates. She engages parents to share their skills. For example, parents come into the setting to talk to the children about their cultural background and cook with them. The children have an impressive range of experiences to learn about what makes them and others unique.

- The childminder provides numerous opportunities to support children's speech and language. She has an awe-inspiring ability to introduce new vocabulary through discussion and shared stories. For instance, children talk about the 'teeny weeny' stickers they are using and explain that the stickers are very small and hard to pick up.
- Children demonstrate that they can engage and focus for extremely long periods, and display an excellent attitude towards learning. Their behaviour is exemplary. For example, older children automatically say 'please' and 'thank you' and assist younger children to enable them to join in with the activities. The childminder makes exceptional use of focused praise to support children to persevere with challenges and recognise their achievements.
- The childminder places an incisive focus on helping children to develop their independence and confidence. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure as they interact with friends and learn to manage their own personal needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very impressive knowledge of all aspects of how to safeguard children. This includes the wider context of protecting children, such as from radicalisation and exploitation. She frequently updates her safeguarding knowledge to make sure she maintains children's safety and welfare. The childminder has an exceptional understanding of the procedures to follow in relation to safer recruitment, to ensure all adults working with children are suitable to do so. She has detailed plans in place to support her assistant when she returns to work with her. For example, she has thorough induction procedures which include safeguarding and information on the updated policies and procedures. This ensures that her assistant has the required skills and confidence to work with and protect children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY389305
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10108716
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	28 January 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Whitstable, Kent. She provides care Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, for most of the year. She holds a relevant early years qualification at level 6. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. She has an assistant registered to work with her.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of the views of parents and other professionals through written testimonials.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint activity observation.
- The inspector checked suitability documentation, including first-aid certificates for the childminder and her assistant.
- The childminder and the children gave the inspector a tour of all areas they use as part of the learning walk.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with children and spoke to them all at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

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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