

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a warm, welcoming and homely environment where children feel safe and secure. Children generally play cooperatively and respond well to the childminder's encouragement to share and take turns. They have formed close relationships with the childminder and each other. Children are confident and enjoy leading their own play.

The childminder has high expectations for the children and plans a wide range of activities that interest and motivate young children to learn. For example, they enjoy exploring a range of natural objects that they recently collected from the beach. The childminder supports children's learning well. For instance, she gives clear explanations about the changes in the seaweed since it was collected. She emphasises key words within her interactions, and this helps to enhance children's understanding and speaking skills. Children's communication and language development are given high priority. The childminder talks to the children throughout activities and shares her enthusiasm and love of books with them.

The childminder has developed good partnerships with parents, which contribute towards a consistent approach to meeting children's needs. She gathers useful information from parents about their children's routines before they start. This helps children to settle quickly and feel secure at the setting.

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

- Partnerships with other settings are effective. The childminder values the importance of sharing information. Children who attend additional settings benefit from having a joined-up approach towards their progress. This helps to support a consistent approach to their learning and development.
- Children have opportunities to learn about risk and how to manage their own safety. For example, when moving up and down the stairs, children know to hold on to the low-level handrail. The childminder offers praise and encouragement during activities and when children follow instructions.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She uses her ongoing observations to understand children's starting points, interests and learning styles. The childminder incorporates their next steps in learning into her planning. She monitors children's progress well to identify and address any gaps in children's development. Children develop good knowledge and skills across all areas of learning. However, the childminder does not consistently give children the opportunity to respond to challenges or enhance their thinking skills effectively.
- The childminder supports children's early literacy and mathematical skills well. Children select from a wide range of books and enjoy relaxing with the

childminder as she reads stories. Older children show an interest in letters and numbers. They take great delight placing numbers in order. This helps prepare children well for the next stage in their learning.

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- Children have plenty of rich opportunities to explore outdoors and meet new people. The childminder organises trips to the beach and harbour, local parks and playgroups, and children make good progress with their physical development and social skills.
- The childminder encourages children to lead healthy lifestyles. For example, children follow good hygiene routines, such as washing their hands when they finish messy play activities, and before they eat. The childminder provides nutritious snacks for children and teaches them about the importance of healthy eating.
- Children enjoy participating in some special celebrations throughout the year. However, opportunities to learn about other's similarities and differences and to develop a greater awareness of diversity are not fully maximised.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibilities to keep children safe. She reviews her policies and procedures regularly to ensure they are kept up to date with any changes. She ensures that her paediatric first-aid training is refreshed. The childminder has a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms that a child may be at risk of abuse. Additionally, she knows the procedures to follow and professionals to contact if she has any concerns. The childminder checks the premises to minimise potential risks in the environment.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- when asking questions, allow children time to respond in order to develop their thinking skills further
- develop children's understanding of culture and diversity, helping them to reflect on the differences and what makes them unique.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548623
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10133690
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	5
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Kent. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home. She discussed with the childminder how she organises her setting and how she plans the curriculum for children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and evaluated the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder about children's achievements and looked at relevant documents, including evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- Parents' views were considered from written feedback provided.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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