

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 October 2018
Previous inspection date	22 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is exceptionally caring, nurturing and sensitive. Children establish extremely secure attachments with her from the start. Babies and children new to her care settle extremely quickly. Parents comment that the childminder has a 'genuine warmth and affection' for the children. This positively supports children's emotional well-being.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how babies and children learn. She is highly skilled at recognising children's interests and considering when to offer tailored support to help them flourish and further develop their imaginations and ideas. Children benefit from the childminder's enthusiastic involvement in their play. This helps all children make significant progress in their learning.
- The childminder has an exceptionally positive attitude to developing her practice. She welcomes feedback from parents and children. The childminder uses these comments to help her be confident in what she does well and meticulously identify clear areas for development. This helps her to maintain the excellent levels of care that she offers.
- The childminder establishes extremely strong relationships with parents. She maintains a highly effective two-way communication. For example, the childminder works with parents to gather and exchange an abundance of information regarding children's achievements and care needs. This helps to support an exceedingly positive, shared approach to children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the already excellent range of resources provided, to give children even further opportunities to explore different materials in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector viewed parents' written comments regarding the childminder's practice and took these into account.
- The inspector viewed children's developmental records and discussed children's progress with the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children during play sessions and snack times.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is fully aware of her role in keeping children safe. She is vigilant in recognising any concerns, such as a change in a child's behaviour, and she has an excellent understanding of how to monitor and report any concerns. This means that children are safe and their welfare is extremely well protected. The childminder has an excellent system in place to support her professional development. She works highly effectively with other childminders, and she sources and attends regular courses. This helps her to keep up to date and maintain the exceptionally high levels of learning experiences she offers. For example, the childminder used knowledge gained from training to help her consider how she plans and provides daily activities. She now reflects more on children's interests to mix resources, such as putting play cars in the sand. This has provided children with new and exciting experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder uses a highly reflective assessment process. She accurately observes children in their play and swiftly recognises areas where extra support may be required. The childminder meticulously recognises and celebrates children's achievements. Children become extremely curious learners who benefit from the childminder's endless encouragement. For example, babies use their senses and developing grip to explore stacking cups. The childminder gives lots of praise as they start to show excellent coordination and place one cup inside the other. The childminder is highly skilled at supporting babies' early speaking skills. For example, young babies smile and babble as the childminder continually chats and introduces simple words to their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder maintains a highly stimulating, vibrant and exceptionally well-considered environment. She provides an abundance of resources inside and outside. This encourages children of all ages to make their own choices in their play. The childminder plans to enhance the range of natural resources she provides to promote further children's already excellent exploration of different materials. The childminder plans inspiring opportunities to encourage children to develop highly effective social skills and learn about the wider world. For example, she regularly takes young children on visits to local groups. Children are also involved in collecting toys for children who do not have the choices they have. Children are exceptionally well supported to develop aspects of their personal care from a very young age. For example, after messy play, the childminder gives young children wipes and shows them, by demonstration, how to clean their hands.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children thrive and make excellent progress in relation to their starting points. They are extremely motivated learners who enjoy practising skills in support of their next stages in learning. For example, babies use their developing physical skills as they start to use brushes to make marks with paint. Older children use their exceptionally strong writing skills as they independently write letters to the fairies who live behind the tiny door in the playroom.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394653
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063798
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm, all year. The childminder accepts funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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