

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 February 2022

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

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

Children flourish in a highly exciting, accessible and vibrant environment. They have secure emotional attachments with the nurturing childminder and her fun and enthusiastic assistants. They demonstrate extremely high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Children show that they have no doubt about their own capabilities and proudly welcome visitors into the childminder's home. Children are captivated by the excellent range of hands-on learning experiences for them to choose from.

Daily songs and music help children to become immersed in rhyme and rhythm. Children show their love for these experiences as they laugh together, sing and move their bodies to the beat of the music. This supports them to be motivated learners who are more than ready for starting school. Children join in the skilfully planned activities with great enthusiasm. They eagerly gather round the childminder, confident in the knowledge that there will be something exciting or interesting for them to do. They concentrate for very long periods, becoming fully engrossed and gaining a wealth of skills and knowledge. For example, children have great fun exploring a large clay egg, hiding small toy dinosaurs inside. They carefully practise digging out the dinosaurs and successfully match the different species of dinosaurs to the fact cards. This very effectively supports children in developing their hand strength and coordination.

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

- The childminder and her assistants use highly effective and purposeful strategies to help children to develop their vocabularies. They listen very patiently and offer excellent encouragement as young children practise forming their new words, which gives them the confidence to express themselves. Children learn and understand new words as they explore, such as 'archaeologist' and 'pterodactyl'. Children make remarkable progress in their speech development.
- The childminder and her assistants place a tremendous focus on promoting children's good health and helping them to develop their self-care skills. For example, they teach children about the importance of good oral hygiene. Children learn about how to take care of their teeth and practise their brushing techniques through an enjoyable and highly exciting activity. Children demonstrate a considerable understanding of the importance of healthy eating and the foods that are good for them. They talk about nutrition and the benefits of vitamin C.
- The childminder establishes excellent partnerships with parents and other settings where children attend. There is comprehensive information-sharing and consultation, in order to successfully complement children's care and learning and meet their individual needs to the highest level.
- Parents speak of the 'dedicated' childminder with the utmost respect. They say

that the childminder and her assistants are 'amazing' and that their children make 'outstanding progress' in her attentive care. The childminder provides a wealth of advice and support for parents.

- The childminder is completely dedicated and passionate towards her role and responsibilities. She is highly reactive to adapting and changing her practice to meet the evolving individual needs of the children in her care, such as undertaking specialist training. She provides superb support for her team. Assistants commit to regular training and share what they learn with each other. They work together to regularly evaluate the quality of all they do in order to provide outstanding experiences for children's learning.
- The childminder works incredibly well with her assistants. Together, they are an outstanding team and exceptional role models. The childminder and her assistants have an impressive understanding of the curriculum, and they plan activities which are consistently aligned with this. Children are learning to converse in other languages, such as saying 'hello' in a range of ways. This not only reflects some children's home life, but also enables them to develop an excellent understanding of the wider world.
- Children's behaviour is impeccable. They are happy, friendly and develop extremely mature social skills for their ages. Children as young as two years share, take turns and show great kindness to each other. For example, they help out their friends during snack time and ensure that they are fully included in games.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder undertakes rigorous risk assessments and hygiene practices, to promote children's safety. This includes those related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been essential as children have continued to attend the provision throughout. The childminder and her assistants have a very strong awareness of possible risks to children and how to keep them safe. They demonstrate a very clear understanding of the signs to look out for in relation to safeguarding concerns. They have an excellent knowledge of what to do should they have a concern about a child and what procedures to follow. The childminder and her assistants provide excellent support to children to help them to keep themselves safe and healthy. For example, children have an excellent understanding of assessing risks and benefit from exciting physical challenges.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY432402
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10219756
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 7
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	23
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Sheerness, Kent. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, and from 7.30am to 4pm on Friday. The childminder works with three assistants, one of whom holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the childminder and discussed how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and assistants about children's achievements and looked at relevant documents, including evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household and assistants.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their written statements provided for 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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