

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 April 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
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Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
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Personal development	Outstanding
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Leadership and management	Outstanding
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in the exceptionally safe, secure and inclusive setting. They develop strong bonds with the extremely nurturing childminder, who wholly understands their personalities and interests. Children build on their experiences to become competent and capable learners. They develop excellent skills and knowledge for their future learning.

Children develop a strong sense of themselves as unique and special people. They learn to listen to one another and appreciate each other's similarities and differences. Children show extremely high levels of social confidence, for example when they smile and say 'hello' to visitors. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are polite and respectful, and the calm and friendly childminder acts as a good role model for this positive behaviour. Children talk about 'how they feel in their hearts' when they express their feelings and emotions.

Children are motivated, curious and interested. They demonstrate excellent focus and attention on their chosen activities. Children invite the childminder into their play, where she extends their knowledge in meaningful ways. For instance, young children listen intently and respond by repeating the sounds and names they hear for the animals in the toy farm.

Children develop a deep sense of their place within the world. They benefit from excellent resources and teaching to promote an awareness of their community and the wider world. For example, children's artwork and comments are superbly displayed, perfectly reflecting their cultural backgrounds and the languages they speak.

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

- The childminder is a highly reflective and inspirational practitioner. She seeks out high-quality professional development opportunities. The childminder consistently improves and develops her knowledge and skills to the highest level. This is demonstrated in her impressive commitment and dedication to providing fully inclusive childcare and education.
- The childminder creates an extremely well-sequenced curriculum based on her meticulous observations and knowledge of the children. She strives to provide children with the optimum environment and resources to support their health, well-being and education in equal measure. Consequently, children are extremely content and self-assured. They have space and time to develop their skills to the best of their ability.
- Children develop excellent language and communication skills. They eloquently express themselves when they describe their emotions, and are confident to use

words such as 'magnificent' to convey their opinions. The childminder is excellent at supporting those children who speak English as an additional language. For example, she works with parents to learn key words in their home language, which she uses while children play and during their daily routines.

- Children delight in sharing stories and games with the childminder. For instance, they love predicting the words to a rhyming story, and laugh infectiously as they begin to understand the humour within the book. Children can recall and retell their favourite stories from memory.
- Children demonstrate strong mathematical awareness when they spontaneously count and recognise shapes. For example, young children demonstrate how they can add and subtract numbers from five.
- Children develop extremely healthy routines and habits. They demonstrate excellent independence skills as they feed themselves and help to get themselves dressed. The childminder instils in children the importance of handwashing to keep away germs before they eat. She ensures that children gain plenty of fresh air and exercise every day, for example when they go to the park, visit the nature reserve or run around and play in the large garden.
- The childminder offers children rich experiences to develop their understanding of the world. She describes this as 'filling an imaginary backpack with experiences and knowledge they will carry and use for their future lives'. Children begin to appreciate culture through music, days out and while playing with the impressive range of diverse resources and toys. This helps them to broaden their thinking, ideas and understanding of life in modern Britain.
- Parents are overwhelmingly full of praise for the childminder. She provides them with exceptional information and insights into their children's learning. Parents comment on how their children 'thrive' in the setting. They particularly commend the childminder for the nutritious food she provides for the children. Parents seek her expert advice to help them continue to support children's healthy eating at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder fully understands her responsibility to keep children safe, following local authority guidance. She shares her excellent policies and procedures for safeguarding children with parents and her assistant. The childminder undertakes regular training to keep her knowledge updated. She knows how to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect, including wider safeguarding issues, such as children being exposed to extreme views or radicalised behaviours. The childminder knows how to refer her concerns in a timely manner, including what to do if an allegation were made against her. She knows the importance of sharing records and information with other professionals, when required, to ensure the well-being of children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY217304
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063893
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	8 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Dunton Green, Kent. She operates her service from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Alison Martin

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 childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the childminder with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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