

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 February 2023

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are very happy in the childminder's warm and welcoming home. They develop strong bonds with the childminder, which helps them to settle well and to explore and play with confidence.

Children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise. They visit local play parks and wildlife parks, and enjoy exploring the surrounding natural environments. The children routinely enjoy opportunities to socialise with a larger group of children and develop their social skills well. They acquire a good range of key skills in preparation for their next stages of development and their move onto school.

Children behave well and have good manners. The childminder has high expectations for their behaviour. Children listen attentively to what she says. For example, they learn to wait patiently for their turn during games or when they would like to play with something another child has. The childminder praises children in a consistent and meaningful way. This increases their self-esteem and emotional well-being. Children are learning the importance of caring for animals. For instance, they very gently stroke the pet dog and understand when he needs time out to rest.

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

- The childminder has a good understanding of how to support children's overall development. She knows the children in her care well and what they need to learn next. The childminder makes good use of this information, along with children's interests, to plan a broad, well-sequenced curriculum. Children engage very well in the activities on offer and become motivated in their learning.
- The childminder has good relationships with the parents. She gathers detailed information about the children's routines, likes and dislikes before they start. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder and the care that she provides. However, the childminder does not consistently consider ways to involve parents in extending their children's learning at home.
- The childminder ensures that daily routines meet the children's individual needs. She communicates with them clearly to make sure children understand what they will be doing next. This contributes to the smooth running of her setting. The childminder encourages children to develop good health and hygiene habits, such as drinking water regularly to stay hydrated and washing their hands regularly.
- Children make independent choices as they select from a wide range of resources to follow their own interests in the playroom. They learn to do things themselves such as meeting their own hygiene needs and contributing to tidying up the playroom. They learn good safety procedures to ensure they stay safe when out and about. For example, they know to 'Stop, look and listen' when

crossing the road with the childminder.

- Overall, the childminder supports the children's communication skills well. She clearly emphasises keywords within her interactions, introduces new vocabulary and models the correct pronunciation of words. This helps to support children's understanding and speaking skills. The childminder provides appropriately challenging questions. However, at times, she does not give children time to think and answer questions, to further their thinking skills.
- The childminder provides many opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. For example, children access a range of tools and resources to support their fine motor skills. They enjoy manipulating play dough and using scissors to cut. This helps to strengthen their hand muscles, ready for early writing.
- Children enjoy the good opportunities to develop their early mathematical skills. They are encouraged to count within activities and explore and understand size, quantity and positional language.
- The childminder is enthusiastic, passionate and committed to ongoing improvements. She regularly reviews her practice and adapts her provision to the needs of the children and to help make positive changes. She attends regular training, undertakes independent reading and research and shares ideas with other professionals. This helps keep her knowledge up to date and to further develop her professional practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date. She knows the signs that would cause her concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder keeps well informed about her local safeguarding procedures and knows who to contact if she has concerns. The childminder thoroughly assesses any risk to help identify and minimise any hazards in her environment. She supervises children's play continuously while in her care. This helps keep children safe from harm.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide parents with more ideas and guidance about how to support children's learning at home
- give children more opportunities to respond to questions asked, to help support their thinking skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382115
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10265149
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	3 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Ramsgate, Kent. She provides care Monday to Friday, from 7:30am to 4pm, for most of the year. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector around her childminding premises to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A sample of documents was reviewed by the inspector.
- Parents' views were taken into account by the inspector.

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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