

Childminder report

Inspection date: 30 June 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are confident and settled, and they show their enjoyment of the time they spend with the childminder. The childminder builds close relationships with children, and they naturally include her in their play.

The childminder supports children's emotional well-being successfully. She teaches children to manage their feelings and behaviour and to understand their emotions. Children develop a sense of belonging and gain a positive understanding of themselves. For example, children express how they are feeling and know what they want or need to feel happy. The childminder highly praises the children for their successes, giving them a sense of achievement. Children's behaviour is good.

Children happily explore their environment and show a positive attitude to learning. They delight in the discovery of different insects during a garden bug hunt. The childminder teaches children about different natural habitats to help them decide where they are going to look for the next insect.

Children learn about the world around them. They benefit from taking part in lots of local activities such as visiting the library and the neighbouring peacocks and deer. They practise their physical skills in the village play parks. This helps children to feel part of their local community.

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

- The childminder carefully reviews children's learning and development and ensures that children make good progress. She knows the children well, understanding each child's development and what they need to learn next. She offers children an interesting range of play opportunities that support them in moving on to the next stage of their learning. However, children do not have consistent opportunities to express their creative thinking freely through art and design. For example, they paint inside the lines of printed pictures when they express they want to create with paint.
- The childminder enthusiastically supports children in developing their enjoyment of books. She offers children a wide range of books that she knows will interest them and spark their curiosity. Children enjoy choosing books to read independently. They listen intently to the childminder as she reads books and engages them in the storytelling as they share books together.
- The childminder works in partnership with parents effectively. She has two-way dialogue with parents, and she regularly shares information with them about their children's learning and development. Parents compliment the childminder for providing their children with a safe and nurturing environment. They say that she is warm and loving, and they appreciate her support and suggestions to

continue their children's learning at home.

- The childminder supports children to make healthy choices and follow a healthy lifestyle. Children have a very good understanding of hygiene routines, and they follow these precisely. They have regular opportunities for physical exercise and fresh air such as playing outside in the garden. Children know how to use ride-on toys, and they use these to move around with control. Children practise their small-muscle movements, and they concentrate as they carefully paint within the lines of printed pictures or shape and mould the play dough.
- The childminder is committed to providing high-quality care for children. She reflects on her setting and attends training to support her professional development. For instance, she has extended her tools and resources to support children to make good progress in their communication and language skills.
- The childminder recognises the importance of supporting children's communication and language skills. She clearly emphasises new and key words within her interactions to help extend children's understanding and vocabulary. Children listen intently to stories and quickly learn new words such as 'confused'. The childminder encourages them to recall their previous learning and asks open-ended questions to support children's critical thinking skills. Children are motivated and keen to learn new things.
- Children enjoy the good opportunities to develop their early mathematical skills. They are encouraged to count within activities, and they explore and understand size, quantity and positional language. They acquire a good range of key skills in preparation for the next stages of development and their move on to school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children are well supervised at all times. The childminder ensures that all areas of the setting are free from hazards and safe for children. She is aware of local safeguarding procedures and can explain what to do if she has a concern regarding a child. The childminder understands the reporting procedure if she has a concern regarding another professional or adult. She can explain the signs and symptoms of abuse and how to report her concerns. The childminder is knowledgeable on a wide range of safeguarding issues, including radicalisation. She teaches the children to consider risk and safety within their play and ensures that they have a good understanding of the fire safety procedure to follow in an emergency.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance the opportunities for children to explore and express their creativity and imaginations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2633136
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10295650
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 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Maidstone, Kent. She operates all year round, Monday to Friday. She 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 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 account of 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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