

Childminder Report

Inspection date	24 June 2015
Previous inspection date	28 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder demonstrates a positive commitment to improving her knowledge and skills. She attends training courses and has recently updated her understanding of safeguarding and child protection. This has had a positive impact on her practice, which helps keep children safe.
- The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. She uses this knowledge to plan challenging learning activities that successfully meet children's individual needs. This helps all children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder continuously reflects on her practice and regularly updates her self-evaluation. She seeks the views of parents and children to help her identify areas for improvement. This ensures she effectively supports and promotes children's learning.
- The childminder develops good partnerships with parents. She regularly shares information about their children's progress with them. This positively contributes to the children's care, education and learning outcomes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide children with access to technological equipment to help develop their information, communication and technology skills.
- The childminder shares information with other settings children attend. However, she does not effectively encourage them to share the children's learning with her, to promote a more consistent approach to their development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase children's use of technological resources to further develop their information and communication skills
- extend partnership working with all other settings children attend, to gain information from them about the children's learning, to promote a stronger continuity to children's experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed a selection of documentation, including children's learning folders, assessment and planning, and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed areas of the childminder's home used by the children, and observed children participating in their activities.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and took account of their views, and from written letters.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Children enjoy a wide range of resources and toys that help them develop their learning across all areas. They display good imagination skills as they role play with the doll's house, enacting out a variety of different scenes. The childminder shows a good understanding of how to support children's communication and language skills. For example, she has recently made story prompts for children to use during book time, to re-enact out familiar stories. Children enjoy a variety of different planned themes throughout the year. They learn about caterpillars and butterflies. This helps children learn about life cycles and nature. The childminder positively encourages children to develop early literacy skills. They confidently use pencils and pens to make marks, write their names and form letters of the alphabet. This helps them gain good skills in preparation for school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children's behaviour is very good. This is because the childminder promotes positive boundaries, which ensures they understand expectations. The childminder is nurturing and kind. Consequently, children are caring and considerate to her, and to each other. Close relationships and positive attachments are evident and children approach the childminder for a hug. This effectively supports their emotional well-being. Children learn about their health, and independently wash their hands before eating and after messy play. They know to drink plenty of water during the day and younger children role play, giving their teddies a drink. Children enjoy regular outings to local attractions, such as a rare breed's farm. Here, they explore the butterfly house and enjoy being shown caterpillar eggs. This positively encourages their social skills as they meet different people. The childminder encourages children to express themselves freely during activities. Consequently, children confidently explore their learning environment and enjoy their learning experiences. Children celebrate a variety of festivals, which effectively promotes their understanding of diversity.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Assessment and planning is consistent and thorough. Photographic evidence and written comments effectively shows children enjoying various activities and the learning that takes place. Regular observations quickly highlight any gaps in the children's progress, which the childminder addresses through planning. This helps ensure all children make good progress in all areas of learning. The childminder has a good working knowledge of the welfare and safeguarding requirements. She frequently risk assesses her home and garden, and keeps thorough records. Children practise regular evacuation procedures with her and know what to do in an emergency. Parents comment positively about the childminder and the good quality care their children receive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126903
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	836189
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1999. She lives in the Kennington area of Ashford, Kent. The childminder offers care all day, Monday to Friday, for most of the year.

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