

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 October 2022

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 happy, confident and form strong bonds with the childminder in this safe and nurturing environment. They are keen learners and happily engage in a wide range of activities on offer. The childminder is supportive, kind and calm with the children. As a result, the children feel safe and comfortable in her care.

Children make good progress in their physical development. The childminder provides challenges to help develop their balance and coordination skills both inside and in various outdoor environments. Children enjoy trips out to socialise with a larger group of children and develop their social skills well. They benefit from an array of exciting learning experiences to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world. For instance, children visit the library, wildlife parks, nature parks, historical buildings and local groups.

The children benefit from the childminder's high expectations for their behaviour. Children respond positively to the continual praise and encouragement that helps raise their confidence and self-esteem. Children are polite and friendly and confidently welcome visitors. They behave very well and have excellent manners.

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

- The childminder knows the children in her care extremely well. She uses her precise understanding of children's progress to provide a curriculum that builds sequentially on what children already know and can do. She plans a wide range of activities for children to participate in. For example, children enjoy exploring books and fact cards about animals. They talk about the animals they see at the wildlife park and the childminder gives them clear explanations to effectively enhance their learning. For instance, she teaches them about different birds native to Australia and New Zealand.
- The childminder supports children's early communication skills well. She clearly emphasises key words within her interactions, introduces new vocabulary and models the correct pronunciation of words. This helps to support children's understanding and speaking.
- The childminder provides children with lots of opportunities to develop their early mathematical skills. She teaches children how to count within activities and learn about concepts, such as size and quantity, effectively.
- The childminder is proactive about the ways children develop a healthy lifestyle. She ensures that children have plenty of time outdoors in order to benefit from fresh air and physical exercise. She provides healthy snacks and lunches and promotes good hygiene routines. However, sometimes, the childminder is too quick to help children with tasks that they could learn to do themselves, such as drying their hands for them and peeling and preparing their fruit ready to eat.

- The childminder is a good role model with high expectations of children's behaviour. She encourages sharing and turn taking to help minimise minor disputes, such as when children want to play with the same toy. The childminder encourages children to be kind and respectful to others. This is evident when children share out the cards in the game, without being prompted by the childminder. This helps to promote compassion towards others.
- The childminder has formed strong partnerships with parents. She shares information about children's development and how this can be extended at home. Parents are very happy with the service provided. They feel involved in children's learning and value the support they receive from the childminder. This two-way flow of information helps to secure the best outcomes for children.
- The childminder continues to assess and reflect on the services that she provides. She attends regular training to help her support individual children's needs and to keep up to date with all core requirements. She has a firm understanding of her role and responsibilities and is keen to continue to improve her childminding service.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands how to protect the children in her care. She completes all aspects of safeguarding training and regularly reviews this knowledge. For example, she knows who to contact should she have a concern about a child in her care. The childminder knows the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against her. She is aware of what to do if a child makes a disclosure to her. She ensures children are continuously supervised while in her care. The childminder assesses the safety of the learning environments to identify and eliminate any potential risks.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide children with more opportunities to develop important independence skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2575137
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10250892
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020 and lives in Ash, near Canterbury, Kent. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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 her evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and inspector carried out a learning walk to discuss the childminder's curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed with the childminder the impact that this has on children's learning and personal development.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including the paediatric first-aid certificate and public liability insurance.
- The views of parents were gathered through written feedback.

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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