

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 May 2018

Previous inspection date

21 September 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder reflects on her practice with her husband, who is also her assistant. Together, they effectively discuss and implement ways to improve the quality of the provision and children's experiences.
- The childminder plans and provides a good range of play experiences for children and monitors their development effectively to close any gaps in their learning. All children are motivated to learn and make good progress from their unique starting points.
- The childminder encourages children to develop a good sense of right and wrong from a young age. For instance, she teaches children how to avoid walking on people's front gardens when they go on walks and how to respect things that belong to others. Children behave very well for their ages and show that they feel safe and settled.
- The childminder works well with parents, to provide children with consistency of care and learning. Parents feel the childminder and her husband are kind and caring, and they provide a safe and happy home environment for their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not build on her conversations with children, to help them begin to form and use more-complex sentences.
- Sometimes, the childminder does not extend children's interests in role play, to help them develop their imaginations and creative skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the use of everyday conversations with children to help them begin to formulate their responses using more-complex sentences
- explore ways to extend children's imaginary play experiences, to develop their creative skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder looked around the areas of the home used by children.
- The inspector sampled documents and policies, including children's records and the childminder's safeguarding information.
- The inspector took parents' written views into consideration as part of the inspection process.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her husband at appropriate times, and completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the children about their play experiences and the activities in which they were engaged.

Inspector

Stephanie Graves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her husband understand child protection issues and what to do should they become concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder risk assesses her home and minimises any potential hazards, to help keep children safe. She and her husband supervise the children well at all times. They help children to learn about keeping safe as they play and explore, including on large outdoor equipment. The childminder supervises the work of her assistants and helps them to develop good skills to encourage children to learn well. The childminder works well with other providers, where children attend more than one setting, to complement what children learn elsewhere. She engages in professional development and has used recent learning well to help children learn to be respectful and tolerant of other people's beliefs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder and her husband provide a relaxed, stimulating environment, in which all children can explore and learn well. For example, they help children to learn about nature and the world around them. Children delight in spotting and learning about birds in the garden, and enjoy matching them to corresponding pictures they can see on their bird chart. The childminder teaches them why birds land high up in a tree, then fly down for food once they have checked there are no dangers around, such as cats or foxes. She offers plenty of opportunities for children to practise their early writing skills, for example, as they manipulate play dough and make marks in sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and her husband form strong relationships with children and their families. They meet the individual needs of the children well. Children show that they really enjoy their company and are comfortable, confident and settled. The childminder manages children's behaviour well and involves the children in settling any minor disputes. For example, children know that if they share the resources together, the childminder will make sure they each get equal turns to use these. The childminder ensures children eat healthy meals and snacks. Children happily choose their preferred fruit for snacks and learn why this is good for them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy playing together. They develop good mathematical skills for their ages. For example, they know that one more than two birds makes three in total. Children explore and match shapes, for instance, as they gather on the carpet with the childminder's husband to complete puzzles. They enjoy noticing what happens when they mix water with sand. They explore the texture and discover how this sticks to their hands. Children are inquisitive and develop the skills they need for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	506307
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1128299
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1998. She lives in Rochester, Kent. The childminder works with three registered assistants, including her husband who works with her on a full-time basis. She works with the other assistants more infrequently. The childminder provides care for children each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, for most of the year. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three years.

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