

Inspection date	18 March 2015
Previous inspection date	20 October 2009

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		Outstanding	1
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 provides an excellent range of good quality resources and toys that are easily accessible to all children. She has a significant understanding of children's individual learning needs. This helps children to make good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder is nurturing and kind. She provides a caring environment for children. This helps to promote secure emotional attachments with her and each other.
- The childminder makes very good use of the outdoor environment. She plans effective learning experiences for children to develop their physical skills.
- The childminder has developed effective working partnerships with parents and communicates with them well.
- The childminder updates her professional development on a regular basis to improve her knowledge and skills. This has a positive impact on the children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always encourage younger children to help during snack time, such as preparing fruit, to further promote their self-help skills.
- The childminder has not established links with other early years settings to promote continuity in children's learning and care needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage all children's involvement during snack time to further promote their self-help skills
- develop effective working relationships with other settings children attend to promote continuity of their care and learning needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- The inspector carried out a joint child observation with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed a selection of children's assessment records, planning documentation, self-evaluation, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector observed children participating in activities and interacting with the childminder.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder very effectively promotes children's learning across all areas. There is an excellent balance of child-initiated learning and adult-led activities. The children enjoy different learning themes, such as making kites. They excitedly take them outside to fly them in the wind. This helps promote their knowledge of different weather patterns. Children confidently explore for themselves and they play for long, uninterrupted periods. This helps them to develop essential key skills for their future learning. The childminder supports children's speech and language exceptionally well. She speaks clearly to children and carefully pronounces words. Younger children's communication is further supported by the use of signs alongside spoken English. Assessment and planning are exceptionally detailed. The childminder meticulously documents the children's learning, therefore, any gaps in their learning are quickly identified. Learning folders are shared with parents on a regular basis.

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

The childminder offers a warm and welcoming environment. Children's behaviour is good because the childminder helps them learn about acceptable behaviour. They are reminded to use 'quiet voices' and 'kind hands'. As a result, children have a good understanding of the behaviour expectations and boundaries. Care routines, such as nappy changing, effectively promote children's self-esteem as the childminder talks to the children and praises them. Older children independently manage their personal needs, for example, they know to wash their hands before eating. The children benefit from healthy snacks and freshly cooked, nutritional meals. This promotes their understanding of healthy choices and supports their good health and well-being. The children enjoy regular outings and daily physical exercise. They confidently run around outside using good control and coordination, such as when playing with the balls and bubbles.

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

The childminder implements the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage well as she has a secure understanding of these. She has relevant documentation to effectively safeguard children and support their welfare, including information about children's details and records of attendance. The childminder regularly practises evacuation procedures, ensuring all children are involved in this process. This effectively supports children's knowledge of safety procedures. The childminder evaluates her practice on a regular basis, seeking the views of children and parents to help identify areas for improvement. She has made good progress in addressing the recommendations set at her last inspection. Parents' comments include how happy they are with their children's progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY389494
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	830207
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	20 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009. She lives in Willesborough, Ashford, Kent. The childminder has an appropriate level 3 qualification.

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