

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 September 2017

Previous inspection date

29 April 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 has strong partnerships with parents. They appreciate the information they receive from the childminder to support their children's learning at home. They value the interesting activities the childminder provides to support children's learning and development.
- Children have good mathematical skills. For example, they have a good knowledge of size and spontaneously count and problem solve throughout their daily experiences. Children make good progress in their learning from their starting points.
- The childminder is successful in monitoring children's progress. She identifies any gaps and ensures the planning includes activities to help children to achieve the best they can.
- The childminder takes time to get to know the children well, so they feel safe and emotionally secure in a welcoming environment. Children form close attachments with the caring childminder and build strong friendships with other children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for younger children to make independent choices and follow their own interests are not fully effective.
- The childminder does not provide consistent opportunities to extend children's early literacy skills and their understanding that written words carry meaning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for younger children to make independent choices, following their own interests
- extend existing opportunities for children to see and understand that print carries meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during their play and learning experiences.
- The inspector observed children and the childminder interacting and discussed children's learning and development.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her assistant and their qualifications.
- The inspector reviewed written feedback from parents of the children attending.

Inspector

Kimberley Luckham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder reflects on her practice well and considers areas that she could further improve. For example, she recently reviewed the effectiveness of some assessments undertaken routinely on the children and now offers an enhanced assessment that is more meaningful for the parents. The childminder keeps her knowledge up to date, for example, through training, to help improve her practice. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder identifies potential risks in the environment and addresses these while helping the children to gain a good awareness of how to play in safety. She has a good understanding of the child protection procedures to follow and she is fully aware of how to report any issues.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder challenges and enhances children's knowledge and skills effectively throughout their experiences. For instance, she encourages children to consider using different sized scoops of rice when filling the larger container. She enhances their learning effectively as she challenges them even further to problem solve. The childminder gives clear explanations about what size of scoop will fill the container in the fastest time. The childminder has a good knowledge of how children learn and develop. She uses meaningful observations of the children's interests and plans activities to extend their development. The childminder maintains effective relationships with other settings that children attend. For example, they exchange children's developmental information and this helps them to provide good continuity in children's care and education.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good understanding of diversity beyond their immediate family. For example, the childminder provides an environment rich in positive images, including in books and role-play resources. Children develop a good awareness of the need for a healthy lifestyle. Children gain a strong understanding of the clothes that they require to dress appropriately for the weather outdoors. The childminder makes the most of opportunities to enhance the children's independence skills well. For instance, children enjoy getting themselves ready with their coats and shoes. Children are happy and settled in the childminder's home. The childminder gives praise and encouragement to help build on children's sense of pride in their ideas and achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children spend time in the local community, such as trips to the local library, the beach and allotment, and they enhance their understanding of the world. Children are well prepared for their next stage of education or their move on to school. They enjoy engaging in opportunities to practise their early writing skills. For instance, children enjoy using a range of tools to make marks within their play experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400364
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1094076
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives in Birchington, Kent. The childminder offers care all day, Monday to Friday.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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