

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 April 2015

Previous inspection date

27 January 2010

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 frequently updates her knowledge and skills by attending training courses. This demonstrates a good commitment to promoting her professional practice and, therefore, positively improves children's learning experiences.
- The childminder forms close and caring relationships with the children she cares for and listens carefully to their views. She respects their likes and dislikes and responds appropriately. This greatly enhances their personal, social and emotional well-being.
- The childminder uses good methods to include parents and other settings in the children's learning. This means that children experience a consistent approach to their development and, consequently, make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder provides a wide range of resources and toys. She has a good understanding of how children learn and develop, which helps children make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder frequently praises the children's efforts during activities. This develops their self-confidence and motivates them to learn.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully enhance children's understanding of plants and sensory learning experiences in the outdoor environment.
- The childminder does not always ensure younger children can easily select mark-making resources, to help develop early literacy skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further develop the outside learning environment to promote the children's experiences of plants and sensory play
- promote younger children's early writing and mark making skills by ensuring resources are easily selected for them in the daily routine.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed children participating in indoor activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the children and the childminder during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a selection of documentation, including children's learning records, and the childminder's written policies and procedures.
- The inspector viewed a selection of parents' written comments.

Inspector

Amanda Hartigan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder promotes children's learning across all areas very well. There is a good balance between child-led play and adult-led activities. For example, the childminder plans focus activities that engage and motivate children to learn. They enjoyed matching different patterned socks and carefully used pegs to pair them together. Children participated in this activity for a lengthy period of time. This effectively helps to promote concentration skills required for future learning. Furthermore, children develop their understanding of mathematical language. The childminder progresses communication and language skills very well. She asks useful questions and carefully repeats words back to younger children. This positively supports their early communication skills. Children confidently and excitedly filled plastic bottles with dried pasta, and used good control and rhythm when they were dancing. This promotes good self-expressive skills.

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

The childminder is warm, caring and kind. She provides a welcoming environment for all children and supports their emotional well-being effectively. For example, the childminder seeks training courses to specifically help manage changes in children's lives, such as age-related behaviour issues. This positively supports individual needs. Children confidently approach the childminder for cuddles, and close and loving attachments are evident. Care routines are undertaken privately, which positively respects younger children's personal needs. The childminder encourages children to think about their own safety. They practise regular evacuation drills and enjoy taking their trikes and participating in road safety training days. This develops good road safety awareness skills. Children celebrate a wide range of different cultural events, which helps to promote their understanding of other people.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the safeguarding and child protection requirements and has recently updated her training. This has positively developed her child protection knowledge and skills, and her role in protecting children. The childminder regularly updates and evaluates her practice. She asks the views of children and parents to help her identify areas for further improvement, which ensures that children receive consistent, good-quality care. The childminder builds very effective links with other settings. She frequently shares information about the children with them. This supports continuity of care. Children's learning files are well documented and shared with parents, positively supporting a partnership approach. The childminder frequently reviews children's progress, which helps to identify any gaps in their learning. Parents make very positive comments regarding the childminder's practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400364
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	838449
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	27 January 2010
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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