

Inspection date

20 April 2015

Previous inspection date

14 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Children develop good communication and language skills. They demonstrate confidence in their play and interactions with the childminder.
- The childminder provides children with a range of interesting learning activities and effective support. As a result, children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder meets children's individual needs well. Children form strong relationships with the childminder, which allow them to flourish in her care.
- The childminder safeguards and promotes children's welfare effectively because she knows how to protect them from harm. She has a thorough knowledge of what to do if she has a concern about a child in her care.
- The childminder develops effective partnerships with parents and other settings children attend, to provide them with consistency in their learning and well-being.
- The childminder provides healthy, balanced snacks and meals, and routinely encourages energetic physical play outside. This allows children to develop a secure understanding of a healthy lifestyle.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and implements clear improvements that raise the quality of her practice for the benefit of children, such as better safety routines and working more closely with parents to promote children's learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always extend children's experiences of being independent. For example, she does not always encourage children to help prepare the fruit at snack time so they learn how to do this for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's independence further by involving them more in everyday routines and managing tasks for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and the childminder during play activities.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding knowledge and took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and the views of parents.
- The inspector viewed the rooms used by children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's learning records.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder.

Inspector

Ann Murray

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a wide range of activities to promote children's development and, as a result, she prepares children well for their move to school. Children have access to many good-quality toys and resources that help them develop their skills and make good progress in all areas of learning. For example, children used their senses to explore a range of natural materials and talked about how they felt and looked. They also used photos of members of their families to create their own pictures. The childminder accurately assesses where children are in their learning and uses this information to plan for the next steps in their development. The childminder effectively involves parents in their children's learning and regularly shares information about children's achievements with them. The childminder values parents' contributions and works with them to support children's learning at home. The childminder keeps parents fully up to date with her policies and procedures so they are aware of her routines and responsibilities.

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

Children develop positive relationships with the childminder who provides them with a happy, safe and welcoming environment. Children settle well in the childminder's care and show confidence in their understanding of routines and behaviour. The childminder meets children's individual needs and requirements quickly and efficiently. She implements effective arrangements to care for them and promote their health, safety and well-being effectively. She has a thorough understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard children and undertakes regular risk assessments to keep her home safe. Children have plenty of opportunities for exercise and they regularly engage in physical play. They learn to keep safe as they regularly practise emergency evacuations.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of how children learn and is aware of a variety of learning methods. She has made clear improvements since the last inspection, enabling children to make good progress. Children are thoroughly engaged and achieving well in their learning because of the childminder's careful planning and delivery of a range of activities. She works well with parents and other early years settings, and shares relevant information about children's achievements and progress. This ensures that everyone is involved in supporting and meeting children's care and learning needs. The childminder is highly reflective in her practice and recognises areas for her own development. She attends training to strengthen her knowledge and understanding of child development. This allows the childminder to make continuous improvements to the service she provides.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409609
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	1005978
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Chatham, Kent. She minds children all day, Monday to Friday, including school holidays. She also cares for children before and after school.

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