

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 October 2017

Previous inspection date

27 May 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 plans exciting, interesting activities for the children. She makes good use of her outdoor area to support children's understanding of the natural world.
- Children form a close relationship with this kind, caring childminder. They are motivated, eager to learn and confidently make independent choices about their play.
- The childminder observes children as they play. She uses the information gained to identify their current stage of development and to plan next steps to help them make progress in their learning.
- Children play in a safe, secure and well-laid-out environment. The childminder regularly risk assesses her property and helps the children to learn to keep safe, for example, when using stairs or the swings.
- The childminder is passionate about her job and approaches her practice with enthusiasm and enjoyment. This has a positive effect on her practice and allows her to make improvements. The childminder has a good relationship with parents and involves them in the self-evaluation process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to gather detailed information from parents about what children can do before they start at the setting.
- Although the childminder exchanges information with the other settings children attend, this does not routinely include all relevant details to ensure the most consistent approach to children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage parents to give even more detailed information about children's development to help establish more precise starting points
- strengthen the exchange of information between other settings the children attend.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of the childminder's interactions with the children.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including children's records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through written feedback and discussion.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation procedure and how she plans to continue to improve her provision.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands the signs that may indicate a child is at risk from harm. She has a good knowledge of how to record and report concerns about children's welfare. The childminder monitors children's progress. She quickly identifies gaps in learning and puts in place plans to close them when they emerge. The childminder reflects on her practice to improve the learning opportunities for the children. For example, after a recent extension she has reviewed her environment to allow children easier access to the toys. The childminder updates her childcare knowledge through research on the internet and discussions with other childminders.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides parents with daily written feedback on their child's learning. This helps parents to continue their child's development at home and to have a clear view of the day's activities and learning. The childminder very effectively supports children to extend their communication and language skills. She involves children in meaningful discussions and asks purposeful questions that encourage good thinking and problem-solving skills. The childminder successfully uses one activity to develop a range of learning ideas. For instance, children talk about the size and count the legs of a spider they found in the garden. They discuss where he lives and what he might eat. They then make a craft 'spider' and count to ensure they have the correct number of legs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they feel happy and secure in the childminder's care. They confidently approach her with their wants, needs and cuddles when feeling tired. The childminder very ably supports the children to be kind, respectful to each other and take turns. She manages small conflicts well and children's behaviour is good. The childminder supports children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle as they eat healthy food and grow fruit and vegetables in the garden. Children spend time in the fresh air every day and have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they enjoy running and using the equipment in the garden and going for walks in the woods. The childminder supports the children to develop their understanding of how they are similar and different as they talk about and make models of their families.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills that prepare them well for their next stage of development and move on to school. They develop their independence, for example, learning to put on their own wellington boots and using the toilet independently. Children develop good early reading skills as they turn the pages of their favourite books, pointing to the details in the pictures and recalling the stories. They enjoy developing their creative skills, while they happily sing songs and nursery rhymes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY410870
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1094351
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 May 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Whitstable, Kent. She provides her childminding service each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm for most of the year. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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