

Inspection date	2 March 2015
Previous inspection date	18 April 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

- Parents and carers are involved in their children's learning and development. They look at their children's developmental folders regularly, sharing in what they have been doing so that they can continue learning at home.
- The childminder and her assistant have high expectations of children which they react positively to, making good developmental progress.
- Children feel safe and secure with the childminder. This is because they follow a routine which helps them to understand what is happening, why and when.
- Children's self-help skills are good as they take care of their own well-being, being independent users of the bathroom and putting on shoes and coats themselves. This helps them prepare well for when they go to school and pre-school.
- The childminder works very closely with parents and carers to support children manage their behaviour and to settle successfully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children play in an environment where they see the written word. However, the childminder writes many words entirely in upper case letters. This does not help children to develop their letter recognition in preparation for writing and pre-writing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that all labels, in particular children's names, are formed with lower case letters as well as capitals to help children develop letter recognition.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge and kitchen.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, her assistant and children.
- The inspector read parents and carers views and opinions of the setting.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including children's records and safeguarding procedures.

Inspector

Karen Scott

Inspection findings

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

Children participate in a wide range of adult and child led activities that promote learning in all areas. The childminder and her assistant know when to participate in activities and when to stand back and let children lead their own play. They are particularly skilled at ensuring children of all ages and abilities benefit from activities. For example, when sharing a book all children interact with the story, looking at words, acting out scenarios or making hand movements. There are many opportunities for children to learn about words and to recognise familiar ones. However, many labels are written in capital letters which does not help children to think about writing their names in preparation for school. Adults reinforce children's learning in a fun way. For example, children have a sound knowledge of the days of the week as they enthusiastically join in with routine activities with passionate adults. Children are active learners who talk through activities, planning together.

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

Children are confident and sociable. They form strong friendships and enjoy playing together. They are kind and caring towards each other, mimicking the way the childminder and her assistant are towards them. Children feel able to express how they are feeling, due to the close relationship they have with the childminder and her assistant. They take pride in the environment and help themselves to toys and resources, knowing where everything is. The childminder uses toys and resources very well to help children manage their behaviour, resulting in children making good progress in a supportive environment.

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

The childminder works in partnership with other settings that children attend, sharing learning and development in order to support children to make good progress. The childminder has a high regard for children's safety. She ensures that the environment is suitable for children to develop their walking, helping them to make solid progress. Adults understand their role in safeguarding children. The childminder and assistant assess children's learning and the activities they offer at daily meetings. This helps them to provide varied learning and to improve outcomes for individual children. The childminder participates in training that builds on her knowledge. She supports her assistant to build on her practice too. This provides positive outcomes for children. The childminder is aware of areas for development in order to further support positive changes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413792
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	816410
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and she lives in Northfleet, Gravesend. The flat is on the first floor of a two storey block. The childminder works with an assistant.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

