

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the care of this warm and extremely nurturing childminder. Young children who are new to the setting quickly form extremely strong attachments. They benefit from settling-in periods that are skilfully devised to respond to their unique needs. This ensures that they feel very safe, secure and happy. Parents also feel reassured by the individual attention that their children receive. The childminder takes exceptional care to learn as much as possible about children's routines and unique personalities.

The environment is thoughtfully set up to enable babies learning to walk to cruise and have opportunities to strengthen the muscles in their legs. Other babies love to transport toys from place to place and there are interesting items for them to explore. Children love to be outside, whatever the weather. During the inspection, they became fascinated by a very heavy rainfall and the patterns it created on the concrete. The childminder seized the opportunity to build on their interest to maximise their learning. She spoke to them about the puddles, explaining why these disappeared when the rain stopped. Children delight in activities such as watching soap being added to water with the resulting bubbles. They thoroughly enjoy washing small pumpkins and rolling them down guttering into a pool of water. At all times children are expertly supported in their play. Activities are planned to take account of what children already know and can do, with additional inspirations to help them learn new things.

Children rapidly develop their communication skills in the language-rich environment. The childminder expertly provides a commentary on their activities and waits so that children have time to think about what she has said. Young children demonstrate their understanding by following her instructions or responding. Children love to have books read to them and are joyful when the childminder spontaneously sings songs. They take part by moving their arms in big circles to 'The Wheels on the Bus' and ask for it to be sung again.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder highly values information exchanges with parents, especially with regard to the care of babies. The child is at the centre of these discussions, and their well-being is paramount. For example, the childminder monitors sleep routines and holds discussions with parents to meet their children's needs continually. Parents speak very highly of the childminder. They are delighted with how their children have settled in. Parents value the high-quality information that is provided about their children's day. They are delighted with their children's developmental progress. They also value the childminder's ideas and advice that help them to support their children's development at home.

- Children make excellent use of the very attractively displayed resources that ignite their curiosity and entice them to play and explore. They develop their physical development as they handle new objects and strengthen their muscles. The childminder ensures that planned activities build precisely on what children already know and can do and offers them opportunities to consolidate that knowledge. For example, she uses wonderful 'positional' language during the pumpkin activity. Older children help to carry pumpkins to the end of the garden and delight in rolling them into water with a satisfying splash. The childminder expertly introduces mathematical language and understanding during this activity,
- The childminder is extremely passionate about providing the highest-quality care for the children. Since registration, she has gone to exceptional lengths to continually develop her skills and knowledge and enhance her practice. She has completed an array of relevant training, including studying how to target her interactions with children skilfully to maximise their learning. This is having a significant impact on children's learning and enjoyment.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are exceptionally well supported. The childminder talks to parents about their culture and language. She uses key words during play to engage children. For example, during the inspection, she repeated the Bulgarian words for 'water' and 'frog'. This demonstrates the childminder's drive to ensure that every child's culture and heritage are celebrated.
- The childminder uses her innate awareness of how to promote children's awe and wonder to plan exciting outings that capture their imaginations. For instance, she builds on children's fascination with the natural world by arranging regular outings to the zoo and to local woodlands.
- The childminder models very positive behaviour for the children. This results in very calm and happy children who are developing positive attitudes to each other and to their learning. Even the youngest children are extremely kind and considerate of their peers.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very thorough knowledge of how to safeguard children in her care. She has undertaken training to ensure that she is up to date with all relevant information to protect children. The childminder has knowledge of the signs of abuse and is passionate about her duty to protect children in her care. She is aware of scenarios that would cause her to raise concerns and knows the procedures to follow in order to report those concerns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2577675
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10250928
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. She lives in Ardingly, Haywards Heath, Sussex. The childminder operates her service from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm on Monday to Thursday and from 8am until 1pm on Friday.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Penny Smith

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed the learning intentions for the children present on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of the care and education during the inspection and the impact on children's learning and development
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children.
- Parents provided their testimonials about their experiences with the childminder.
- Key documentation was reviewed by the inspector on request.
- The inspector interacted with the young children during the inspection.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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