

Childminder report

Inspection date: 23 March 2023

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happy and settle effortlessly in the inviting and well-organised, home-from-home environment. The childminder and the co-childminder welcome children warmly and talk about the activities they have been exploring this week. Children feel safe and secure. They sit on the childminder's lap and listen intently as she enthusiastically introduces the inspector and talks to children about the day ahead. Children learn effectively from a curriculum that is planned and well delivered. They excitedly look for their name stickers and discuss the similarities of the different letters. Children are offered plenty of praise from the childminder and are extremely proud of themselves when they find the correct name.

Children run and jump with delight in the outdoor play space. They try hard as they learn how to pedal bicycles and practise on scooters. When children want to use the same piece of equipment, the childminder is on hand to talk to them about the importance of sharing. Children remember they can use the sand timer. They use this to take turns as they joyfully return to their game. Children demonstrate a good understanding of behavioural expectations and learn how to play kindly with one another.

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

- The devoted childminder works alongside a co-childminder, who is her mother. They work closely to ensure all children's needs are met. For example, they clearly communicate any information about babies that may affect their changing personal, sleep or feeding needs. The childminder is in tune with young children as they potty train with success. She offers them plenty of encouragement and praise.
- The childminder implements a broad curriculum as she plans her activities carefully to ensure all children can learn together. For example, the childminder engages children in an activity that focuses on building the small hand muscles needed for early writing. Younger children try hard as they master cutting with scissors or colour with pencils.
- Children enjoy a wide range of books as they access them freely. They excitedly take them to the childminder, who reads them with enthusiasm. Children listen intently and become absorbed and engaged in the story. Children demonstrate positive attitudes to learning as they develop a love of reading.
- The childminder actively promotes young children's conversational skills. She talks to them clearly, offering them plenty of time to respond and understand the vocabulary she has offered them. For example, the childminder talks to the children about the different emotions they might experience and introduces new words. Children are interested as they look at the different faces and repeat words such as 'worried' and 'sad' as they reflect on the story they read earlier.

- Children are developing meaningful independence skills. They help the childminder as they gather their breakfast items from the kitchen and set up the table with care. However, occasionally, children are not reminded of the importance of completing hygiene routines before mealtimes, such as washing their hands. Children's understanding of the importance of good hand hygiene for health is not always promoted.
- The childminder creates personal books for children that include pictures of their family and themselves as they grow up. Children thoroughly enjoy looking at these together as they discuss how they have changed over time and the different people in their lives. Children's understanding of their individual character is promoted as they learn about the similarities and differences between them and others.
- Overall, children are supported in making good progress. However, at times, older children show they want to know more about their learning activity, such as when they recognise different letters. This knowledge is not always extended by the childminder, and older children are not challenged as much as possible.
- Parents express high levels of praise and appreciation for the childminder. They are very pleased with how detailed the communication about their child's development is. Parents know what their children are working towards, and the childminder regularly provides photos and videos about their day. Parent partnerships are strong.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and welfare is fully assured by the knowledgeable childminder. She has a clear and robust safeguarding policy in place, which she reviews and updates when necessary. The childminder has completed extensive training and has a good understanding of a range of different safeguarding concerns relating to children and families. For example, she knows how to escalate concerns relating to radicalisation and gender-based violence, such as female genital mutilation. She is confident on the procedures she must adhere to should she ever be concerned that a child in her care has become a victim to abuse.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- promote children's understanding of good health and hygiene through routines such as handwashing
- build on how activities are structured to provide even further challenge for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2618176
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10260153
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in February 2021 and lives in West Sussex. The childminder provides care for children aged from birth to five years, Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5.30pm, all year round. The childminder is qualified to a level 3 and works with a co-childminder. She provides free entitlement education to eligible children aged two, three and four.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nicola Houston

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation provided by the childminder.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.

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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