

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 October 2024

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 are happy and settled at this setting. The childminder creates a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to build their individual characters and gain a secure sense of self. This helps them feel safe and secure and gain confidence. Children start to develop an understanding of their emotions as they explore facial expression cards while reflecting on their own image in the mirror. Children love using mirrors to watch themselves interact and play with others; this helps them develop self-awareness.

The childminder provides children with lots of opportunities to learn about different concepts through their interests. For instance, children concentrate intently as they explore the properties of coloured pebbles and marbles. The childminder introduces maths by encouraging children to consider whether the containers they are filling feel heavy or light. The childminder uses different figures of speech, such as 'light as a feather', to help children make connections in their learning.

The childminder helps children develop listening and attention skills by giving them choices and instructions, making these more complex for those who are further on in their development. Children listen and remember the different details about the items they are finding, including colours and amounts. The childminder and children celebrate each other's achievements, promoting high levels of self-esteem. This has a positive impact on children's behaviour and encourages them to do well.

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

- The childminder is enthusiastic and passionate about children's learning and care. She reflects on her own practice regularly and keeps her knowledge and skills up to date by attending training, conducting personal research and sharing good practice ideas with other providers. The childminder works in partnership with parents and professionals that are involved in children's learning and care. She liaises with other settings that children join and provides parents with activity ideas through regular photo sharing. The childminder keeps parents up to date on their children's progress through face-to-face contact and the online app. This helps to provide children with a consistent approach to their learning and welfare.
- Children have access to an ambitious curriculum that is based around their interests. For example, the childminder uses characters from children's favourite stories to extend their knowledge of colour. Children use play dough to recreate the characters from the story. The childminder listens to children's ideas and helps to alter the colours available, showing children how blending white and yellow creates 'light yellow'. However, at times, the childminder can become very occupied with chatty children, meaning some quieter children do not consistently

have the same opportunities to reach their fullest potential.

- Children develop a love of reading and learn from a young age that books are 'special' and should be treated with care. Children enjoy spending quiet time in the 'book nook', reading their favourite stories, or sharing books of interest they bring from home. The childminder makes story times engaging. For example, she whispers the story, so children lean in and wait with interest to see what the next page will reveal. The childminder pauses to encourage children to complete unfinished phrases and introduces new vocabulary, such as 'moustache'. This helps develop children's speech and language skills as well as an understanding that text has meaning.
- Children learn to become problem solvers. For example, while collecting marbles from the floor, children consider how they might collect them in different ways to maximise their productivity. The childminder encourages children to test out their ideas. Children discover that if they collect the marbles in their clothing, they can carry more at a time, reducing the number of journeys they need to make. This helps children develop their critical thinking skills while developing positive attitudes to learning.
- Children have lots of opportunities to develop their physical skills. The childminder demonstrates an understanding of how children learn. For instance, she uses large-scale mark-making activities to help children develop the muscles they will need for future writing. Children spend plenty of time learning outdoors, climbing, running and jumping in puddles. Children develop their core strength and coordination as they learn to operate ride-on toys. This helps prepare children's bodies for their next stage in learning.
- Children learn to be independent from a young age. The childminder teaches them the skills they need to do things for themselves, such as dressing, and they learn to navigate zips and straps with ease. She uses daily routines well to provide children with regular opportunities to practise these skills. For instance, children know to take off their boots when they come in from outside. They do this without being prompted and place them neatly by the front door.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide all children, particularly those who may be quieter, or at an earlier stage in their language development, with consistently high-quality interactions that maximise their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2685149
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10363651
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 3
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022 and is based in Littlehampton in West Sussex. She cares for children from Monday to Friday, between 7.30am and 2pm, all year round. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification and accepts government funding for children who are eligible.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Paula Sissons

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the provision and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled written feedback from parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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