

Childminder report

Inspection date:

7 March 2025

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

The childminder is dedicated and places children at the heart of everything she does. Children thrive in the stimulating environment, which the childminder has organised with an abundance of resources, including many real-life items. Children play in the role play area and act out going shopping. They pretend to buy real carrots, potatoes and oranges. The childminder skilfully uses this opportunity to introduce new vocabulary to younger children. All children, including younger children handle real money and are taught basic maths skills as they count out the change for their friends. The childminder makes children's imaginative play more meaningful as she reminds them of their regular and very recent shopping trips into the local village.

The childminder effectively uses her outdoor environment to cover all the areas of learning. This benefits all children but particularly children who prefer to play outside. Children count and collect eggs from the childminder's chickens and the eggs are later prepared and cooked by the children. They learn how to care for animals and respect their environment. For example, the childminder teaches children about food waste and recycling. Children understand how to compost vegetable cuttings which they later spread onto the garden where they grow their own produce, such as fruits, vegetables and a large variety of herbs. The childminder is an excellent role model. She provides a strong routine and has high behavioural expectations for children. Consequently, children's behaviour is excellent. They nurture each other and show a genuine affection for the childminder and their friends.

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

- The childminder is meticulous in her planning. She demonstrates an in-depth knowledge on how children learn and their ages and stages of development. Activities are skilfully adapted to incorporate children's current interests and capabilities. For example, children delight in helping to set up a 'tea party' for their teddies. Older children are shown how to use tongs to grasp a tea bag. The childminder adapts activities to help children develop the muscles in their hands to support writing later on. Younger children use spoons for the same activity. They learn and then repeat new vocabulary, such as 'scoop', 'more' and 'all gone'.
- Children are extremely confident communicators. The childminder consistently provides opportunities for children to build on their comprehension and vocabulary. For example, the childminder teaches children simple signs that represent words. Children use these signs to express themselves during songs and rhymes. The childminder provides props that represent children's emotions. She recognises that some children need support to understand their feelings.

The childminder is calm, gentle and sensitive to the unique characters of the individual children in her care.

- Children are very well supervised in the childminders home and garden. Robust safety measures are implemented when children are on outings. These outings are meticulously planned to support children's understanding of the local community and the natural world. The childminder takes children on a double-decker bus so that children can experience a different perspective of the villages and towns surrounding their home. Children visit and buy ingredients from European supermarkets. They learn about a variety of different diets across the world. The childminder seeks out people to share experiences of their own cultures. Children learn songs in other languages, such as Mandarin. Consequently, children gain an excellent understanding of the diverse world around them.
- The childminder is passionate about continuously developing her practice to support all children and families to a very high standard. She regularly carries out her own research and attends training to further enhance her curriculum and benefit children. The childminder works alongside parents to gain a deeper understanding of children's individual needs and interests. She offers support and guidance to families on every aspect of their child's care and education, including information about low-cost educational places to visit with their children. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their child's education.
- The childminder has an exemplary attitude to supporting children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. She provides home-cooked nutritious foods which children help to prepare using safety knives. The childminder uses everyday routines, such as handwashing and toileting, to support even very young children to become proficient in their own self-care. Older children independently use the toilet, and younger children find tissues to blow their own noses. The childminder promotes children's oral health effectively. For instance, the childminder has introduced teeth-brushing after meals. She supports children's understanding further through having discussions about a recent trip to the dentists and reading books on teeth care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	2702251
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10388384
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 2
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2023 and lives in the village of Groombridge, East Sussex. She cares for children all year round between 8am and 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday and 8am to 4.30pm on Friday except for family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification. She provides government funded early education places for children aged from nine months up to three years

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tina Lambert

Inspection activities

- The childminder carried out an activity and evaluated this with the inspector.
- During the inspection, the inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder talked to the inspector about how she organises her provision and her curriculum intent while the inspector viewed the premises.
- During the inspection, the inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed some relevant documentation and held a discussion with the childminder. She read written feedback from parents.

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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