

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the childminder's care. She provides an exceptional home-from-home environment where every child and family is fully respected and valued. From an early stage, children develop an excellent attitude towards learning. The childminder actively fosters children's curiosity, independence and thirst for knowledge. She allows babies and toddlers to thoroughly explore the environment, inside and outside, and to show wonder in the world around them.

Every child's unique qualities are understood, respected and planned for. The childminder's teaching is outstanding. She demonstrates a tireless commitment towards providing children with the best possible start to their learning and has the highest expectations for every child. She is totally dedicated to her own professional development and has completed a wealth of additional training to ensure her knowledge remains up to date and is reflective of latest research.

Children form exceptional relationships with the childminder and her co-childminder. They naturally gravitate towards the childminder when she sits down to read stories. Babies and toddlers excitedly crawl onto her lap and snuggle in ready to enjoy looking at the pictures. The care and compassion shown to every child is impressive. Children flourish in this exceptionally homely, safe and happy environment. Their behaviour is impeccable.

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

- The childminder organises her service exceptionally well. She works exceedingly hard with her husband to provide care of the highest standard. She demonstrates an extensive knowledge of every child and this helps her to plan precisely and meticulously for each child's learning.
- Every child makes rapid progress in their learning and development. The childminder uses her exceptional knowledge of how children learn to plan enjoyable, exciting and extremely stimulating activities inside and outside. She also skilfully extends the curriculum with a wealth of visits and outings away from the home. This means children benefit from an extensive range of rich learning opportunities. These are planned precisely and carefully to capture children's interests and targeted development needs.
- Children are prepared extremely well for starting school. They develop exceptional language skills and engage in detailed and creative conversations with adults. They convey their needs confidently and highly effectively. The childminder empowers children to think in detail, to solve problems and to work things out for themselves. This means children really focus and show sustained interest and concentration, which supports their learning exceedingly well. As a result, children are highly motivated to learn and develop their knowledge.

- Excellent attention is given towards supporting children's mathematical skills. From a young age, children learn to count confidently and use numbers in their play and conversation. Older children demonstrate an exceptional understanding of other mathematical concepts, such as colour, shape, size and weight. For example, during well-organised activities, children practise using traditional scales and confidently identify which item is heavier or lighter.
- Careful consideration is given towards keeping children safe. The childminder and her co-childminder are exceptionally vigilant and take every precaution within the home to identify possible hazards and protect children from risk. Scrupulous attention is given towards ensuring all outings and visits are safe for children and take full account of their various ages and abilities. As a result, outings are well planned, keep children safe and thoroughly support their learning and development.
- Children behave extremely well. The childminder and her husband act as impressive role models. They show kindness and a deep level of respect for others. Children mirror these qualities in their play and interactions with their friends. This means children are extremely polite and courteous to one another.
- There are extensive opportunities for children to be physically active and to benefit from a healthy lifestyle. Children spend extended periods of time outside. They frequently play with an exceptional range of resources in the garden and enjoy walks on the downs, beach and in the woods. These are clearly some of the children's favourite activities. The childminder has an excellent awareness of protecting children against infection. For example, the childminder is vigilant in ensuring children develop complete independence in managing personal care routines, such as handwashing, from a young age. The well-planned daily routine means children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise to support their healthy development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a meticulous approach towards supporting children's welfare. She completes extensive training and has an exemplary knowledge of her duty to protect children. Comprehensive risk assessments are completed for all aspects of practice to ensure children's well-being. During outings, the childminder teaches children exceptionally well about safety and the importance of being aware of possible dangers. For example, from a young age, children are increasingly aware of how to cross roads safely as the childminder practises this frequently as part of the daily routine. As a result, children develop a strong understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	505565
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10136317
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	24
Date of previous inspection	29 October 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder has been operating since 1989. She works with her husband, who is also a registered childminder, and they live in the Old Town area of Eastbourne, East Sussex. The childminder operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Caswell

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and her co-childminder at convenient times during the inspection.
- The childminder's co-childminder and the inspector observed the childminder teaching children and evaluated how well this activity supported children's learning and development.
- Observations took place of children learning inside and outside. The inspector assessed how quickly children make progress and whether their individual learning needs are consistently met.
- A tour of the childminder's home was completed to make sure all areas are safe for children.
- A selection of records and documents were looked at to make sure the childminder complies fully with all regulatory requirements. This included looking at the childminder's training certificates and some of the childminder's policies and procedures.

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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