

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 February 2020

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder creates an extremely warm, loving and nurturing atmosphere, where children are cherished. Children feel exceedingly happy, safe and secure in the childminder's care and form wonderful attachments to her. They explore the homely and stimulating environment with great confidence and engage very well in their play and learning. For example, children enthusiastically arrange the extensive role-play food equipment and happily make cups of 'tea' for the childminder. They show good imagination and carefully place toy teabags, sugar lumps and milk into mugs to meet the childminder's requests.

The childminder has high expectations for children and provides a broad and varied curriculum. She focuses on time spent outside of the home to explore the local community and plans exciting trips to support children's interests. For example, children recently visited a birds of prey centre and bravely held and fed falcons and owls. Children delight in looking at the photographs of such moments displayed in the childminder's home and recall their diverse experiences and memories with pleasure.

Children are confident communicators and thoroughly enjoy talking to the childminder about their lives and interests. They are beginning to understand the meaning of numbers and quantities, and can recognise colours well. They are enthusiastic learners who are making good progress and quickly gaining the skills they need to succeed in their future education.

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

- The childminder is a very experienced and skilled practitioner and gives her own professional development high priority. She proactively accesses a broad range of further training opportunities and continuously strengthens her knowledge and practice. After recent training on 'intent, implementation and impact', she has focused on making the most of learning experiences and this is evident in her practice. For example, to further support children's interest in healthy food, the childminder incorporates related books, creative activities and first-hand experiences of growing vegetables in the garden. During the inspection, children thoroughly enjoyed creating their own 'super aubergines' by painting wooden spoons purple and learned about new vegetables during a story.
- The childminder is highly engaging and children love including her in their play and experiences. She is an excellent role model and takes the time needed to instil in children a deep understanding of positive behaviour and its importance. Subsequently, children behave impeccably well and show great care, respect and concern for others. They often independently check that others around them are happy, and look to include others in their play. Children consistently

use wonderful manners without prompting and are incredibly polite and kind natured.

- The childminder is passionate about giving children a rich set of experiences outside of their day-to-day lives and makes great use of the local community. For example, children joined up with other local children to create 100 poppies for the special 100 year anniversary of Remembrance Day and were featured in the local newspaper. Children spend a lot of time out and about with the childminder, benefiting from first-hand experiences, such as grocery shopping or exploring local nature areas. The childminder successfully ignites their sense of awe and wonder in the world around them.
- The childminder joins in well with children's play, and overall, extends their learning skilfully. For example, as children arrange stones to copy pictures, she encourages them to name the colours and shapes, and count how many of each there are. However, the childminder does not fully support and extend children's thinking skills to the highest levels. She occasionally steps in too quickly to give children the answers to questions, and does not give them the time they need to work things out and test their knowledge.
- Children demonstrate their superb confidence in their surroundings, and demonstrate their zest for life as they spontaneously break into song throughout the day. They show off their strong personalities and sense of humour as they enthusiastically engage with the childminder and feel completely safe to express themselves through talk, play and affection. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring their creative skills and pay good attention to detail as they carefully paint spoons, making sure to cover all areas. They show strong physical skills and hand control, preparing them well for early writing when the time comes.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is vigilant in her approach towards safeguarding children in her care. She is extremely confident in how to identify potential signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedures she would use to report any concerns. This helps to protect the welfare of all children who attend her provision. The childminder uses thorough risk assessments that she regularly adapts to keep children safe and secure on outings in the community. She understands the importance of updating her knowledge to ensure she reflects changes to her procedures and policies.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance the use of questioning to ensure children are consistently given the time they need to listen, think and respond to questions asked to fully extend their thinking skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310500
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10136443
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	21 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Crawley, West Sussex. She cares for children each weekday, all year round. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds a relevant level 3 early years qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection activities

- The inspector was given a tour of the home by the childminder and carried out a learning walk to discuss the curriculum.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed the play activities and children's learning during the inspection and jointly observed children's play.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with the children and assessed the impact of teaching.
- The views and opinions of the children and parents were taken into account during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled some of the childminder's documentation, including suitability records and a selection of policies.

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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