

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 May 2024

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely happy, and they flourish in the care of this exceptional childminder. They are highly motivated, enthusiastic learners who are inquisitive and keen to explore. The childminder develops strong bonds with the children and knows them very well. Her carefully planned curriculum focuses on what children know. She identifies their likes and interests and considers what they need to learn next. The childminder uses her in-depth knowledge of each child to strategically plan for their next steps. She shares this information with parents to support continuity in learning.

The childminder confidently supports the development of children's speech and language skills. She expertly commentates play and takes every opportunity to introduce new words. This helps children develop a superb range of vocabulary. The childminder listens carefully to what children have to say. She skilfully gives them plenty of time to process questions and think of an answer. This enables the childminder to engage in exceptionally high-quality conversations with children. As a result, all children are making significant progress with their speech and language skills.

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive excellent support. The childminder uses highly effective assessment processes to identify gaps in children's learning. She knows how to make a referral and works productively with other professionals. This ensures that all children are included and that they all receive the extra support they need.

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

- The childminder inspires children to be curious and ask questions. For example, to follow their interest in how their bodies work, she devised an exciting activity where she helped children draw around themselves and add different body parts. Children show excellent recall as they enthusiastically talk about this activity and the body parts they added. They remember that the skull protects the brain, showing the highly detailed knowledge they have learned.
- Building children's independence and confidence is fully embedded in the childminder's practice. She teaches children to take care of their own personal needs. For example, she shows them how to wipe their nose and wash their hands. She gives children time to complete tasks, such as persevering to put their own coat and shoes on. As a result, children are developing excellent life skills.
- The childminder is passionate about teaching children to be healthy. She provides children with opportunities to try a variety of healthy food to extend their palate and make healthy choices. The childminder highly motivates children

to engage in physical activity, such as long walks, to increase their energy levels and stamina. As a result, children are learning to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

- Children relish having stories read to them. They focus on the book and listen intently. The childminder takes every opportunity to read with children and carefully selects books that are linked to their interests. As a result, children have high levels of concentration and are developing a love of books.
- The childminder is highly successful at extending activities to expand children's learning. For example, the childminder creatively adds resources and ideas to skilfully develop a building activity. This subsequently inspires the use of mathematical language and creative thinking skills. For example, children add 'pillars' and 'columns' to their building to make it strong. They count the bricks in their columns and compare sizes. As a result, children remain deeply engaged and focused on the activity.
- Parents speak extremely highly of the childminder and the care she provides. They particularly like the rich experiences and wealth of opportunities the childminder provides. This includes trips to the theatre for story time and to the library, farms and parks.
- The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. She role models good manners and uses hand signs, such as 'thank you', to help children communicate. Children are extremely kind to their peers. Older children show empathy to younger children and help them complete tasks. As a result, children are developing excellent social skills.
- The childminder is highly reflective and completes training for professional development. This enables her to gain new knowledge to provide children with quality learning opportunities. For instance, she has learned the muscle sequences children need to develop, to support early mark-making skills. As a result, children are making great progress with their early writing skills.
- The childminder is highly effective at teaching children about differences and diversity. She provides rich experiences for children to celebrate festivals that are important to their families and introduces new ones to extend children's knowledge. The childminder uses real-life opportunities for children to learn about helping people with disabilities. This successfully widens children's understanding of the world around them.
- Children receive extremely high levels of support from the childminder when they transition to school or a new setting. This includes practising getting dressed and knowing when they need to drink. The childminder is highly effective at sharing information, for example, she shares children's progress with teachers when they visit her setting. This helps children move confidently and securely on to their next stage of education.

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	EY426832
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10339174
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	2 to 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in East Grinstead, West Sussex. She operates for most of the year, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lisa Smith

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 childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for the early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request and 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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