

Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	7 October 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder's calm and positive manner creates a purposeful atmosphere where children are well-behaved, friendly and cooperative. This promotes children's well-being.
- Children are very interested in the activities planned by the childminder and have lots of choice about what to play; they are always engaged in good quality play.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and provides a wide range of activities to help them learn indoors and outside.
- The childminder is very effective at maintaining professional documentation to safeguard children's welfare and to build a strong partnership with parents and others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently track children's development to demonstrate the rate of children's development. This hampers her ability to fully recognise and address any changes in how children progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the effectiveness of assessment methods to show dates of children's achievements and their rates of progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play in the childminder's home and discussed with the childminder what activities are provided outdoors.
- The inspector gathered the views of parents.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including policies and children's records.

Inspector

Susan McCourt

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder knows children very well and works closely with parents to share information about their children's abilities, interests and levels of development. She uses this information to plan activities which children will find very interesting, so they settle quickly to good quality play. The childminder has a good understanding of how to promote children's communication and language skills. She chats with children about what they have done at school and asks open questions to help them decide what they would like to play. The childminder also encourages children to explain what they want to achieve and how to go about it. For example, children taking part in a health project decided to make posters about stopping smoking. The childminder tracks children's learning against expected levels of development and it is clear that children make good progress. However, the rate of progress is not clear, which hampers the childminder's ability to identify and address if children are falling behind.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder is very effective in promoting children's well-being. She routinely organises physical activities, such as walking, dancing and other exercise into the children's day. Children enjoy taking part because the childminder explains the health benefits and makes each activity fun. The childminder builds warm and affectionate relationships with children and promotes their independence. This encourages children to be confident about trying new things and persist in learning new skills. The childminder has well-established routines and is very consistent in how she works with children to manage their behaviour and safety. As a result, children spontaneously wash their hands before eating, remind each other about playing safely and are very polite. Children enjoy helping and taking responsibility, these strong independence skills prepare them well for their future learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Her child protection policy states how she, 'will take action should she have concerns about the welfare of a child'. This also includes children's e-safety in terms of how she will use photographs of activities. Parents see all her policies and are aware of her responsibilities. The childminder shares a lot of information with parents to build a strong partnership. They meet regularly to discuss children's progress and to prepare for the next stage in their learning. For example, deciding on specific strategies to support children who have recently started school. The childminder involves parents in evaluating her provision and she adapts her practice to meet families' needs. This means she can provide highly consistent care for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY284225
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	843640
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives with her husband and four children in the Woodingdean area of Brighton and Hove. The childminder has a dog.

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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