

Inspection date	25 March 2015
Previous inspection date	24 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She is extremely knowledgeable about child protection and ably promotes children's safety and confidence.
- The childminder has an exemplary understanding of how to meet the learning and development requirements. She skilfully plans activities, which are thoughtfully tailored to children's interests and skills, helping them to make outstanding progress.
- Children benefit from a wide range of outdoor opportunities to play in nature areas and enjoy challenging physical play, as well as use small tools and objects to strengthen their small muscles. This promotes children's excellent physical development.
- The childminder uses questions and conversation expertly to promote children's speech and language. She consistently encourages children's thinking skills, giving them exemplary support for independent choice and self-reliance.
- The childminder has excellent partnerships with other day care settings that children attend. She shapes her identified next steps to complement those devised by the group setting and this gives children a highly consistent learning experience.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the partnership with parents by including home learning more fully in children's records.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play in the childminder's home.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation, including children's records.
- The inspector read parents' feedback to gather their views.
- The inspector and childminder discussed the effectiveness of the observed activity.

Inspector

Susan McCourt

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has excellent teaching skills. She works closely with parents to establish children's current level of achievement when they start. She makes careful and precise observations of children's interests and abilities, and uses this information to plan a wide range of highly engaging activities. For example, she provided different pasta shapes and rice in a tray for children to explore with spoons and toy diggers, which brought together different interests the children have. Children explored and investigated what they could do over a long period of time. The children independently adapted the activity to set their own challenges, such as creating different shapes with the pasta. Children enjoyed describing what they were doing and the childminder skilfully added new vocabulary, encouraging them, by asking different questions to stimulate new ideas. Children make excellent progress in their learning as a result, acquiring skills above their expected levels of development.

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

Children build a very strong and secure relationship with the childminder. The childminder has created an extremely child-friendly learning environment in her home where children can play and have fun with a wide range of excellent toys and play equipment. As a result, children are confident to separate and explore, which promotes their very strong emotional development. The childminder has very clear boundaries and house rules so children know what to expect. She is also an excellent role model in terms of encouraging children's independence and responsibility. For example, children freely explored in pasta play which created a messy floor, and they enjoyed being helpful and swept it up. As a result, children are highly motivated to investigate and learn, showing a great deal of curiosity in their play. They have excellent self-care skills and overall, acquire exemplary skills to help them in their future learning.

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

The childminder has made an excellent response to the recommendation made at the last inspection. She has examined different evaluation methods and devised a system, which allows her to reflect on her provision and promotes decisive action. This has enabled her to bring about lasting improvements to her provision, in consultation with parents and children. The childminder is very skilled at working with children with additional needs and makes sure she is fully informed of children's medical or developmental needs. Parents appreciate the range of ways the childminder shares information in verbal handovers, online records and written summary reviews of children's development. However, the childminder does not consistently capture parents' input for children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388925
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	830165
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Three Bridges, West Sussex. She receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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