

Childminder Report

Inspection date	28 April 2015
Previous inspection date	23 September 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 has a good understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She has a detailed knowledge of how to deal with any concerns about a child's welfare and has a high standard of safety.
- The childminder promotes children's well-being very effectively. Children separate confidently from their parents and enjoy exploring the good-quality toys and play equipment in the dedicated play room and garden. As a result, children are well-motivated to learn.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to meet the learning and development requirements. She plans effectively to support children's identified next steps in learning. As a result, children make very strong progress in their learning and have mature communication and personal skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes the childminder gives children solutions to problems they encounter without giving them opportunities to devise their own ideas. This hampers their ability to learn how to solve problems for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's critical thinking skills further by encouraging them to devise their own solutions to problems they come across in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play indoors and in the garden.
- The inspector examined a range of documentation, including children's records and safeguarding information.
- The inspector and childminder reflected on the morning's activities.

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 has built a strong partnership with parents. They exchange information about children's care and progress regularly. This promotes a good level of consistency in support of children's progress. The childminder is a skilled teacher. When working with children of different ages, she keeps all children engaged with play by tailoring her conversation to each child's own level of understanding. She also shares her attention in a considerate way so that all children are involved and busy. The childminder organises her day to make sure that each child has individually tailored activities focusing on their personal next steps in learning. For example, pre-school aged children have lots of 'why' and 'how' conversations, while younger children build their skills in using dough and craft tools safely. As a result, children are very eager and independent learners.

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

The childminder is a very effective key person for minded children. As a result, children feel very much at home in the childminder's care. They have personal towels and chair covers and their photographs and artwork are displayed, which promotes a strong sense of belonging. Children are clearly secure and confident, which promotes their emotional development. They are very independent and quickly learn to take care of their personal hygiene. Children enjoy a healthy diet and help to choose the menus and prepare food. In addition, they benefit from frequent outdoor play. This means that their physical care is very good. Children are very well behaved. Older children understand that little ones might copy them, so behave very safely around them. Children share and are very cooperative in their play. They enjoy taking responsibility for their belongings and tasks, such as tidying up. As a result, children acquire good skills to help them in their future learning.

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

The childminder has a very professional approach to her work. She has a qualification in childcare and updates her knowledge and understanding with regular training. She reflects on her work personally and also works with other childminders to share ideas and act as mentors in skill sharing. For example, the childminder has enhanced her knowledge of how to promote the skills children need to move on to school. The childminder consults with children and their parents to set targets for improvement. For example, she asks for their views on the most effective way of keeping care and learning records. Parents are very positive about the childminder's skills and comment on the quality of their children's progress. The childminder works closely with other early years settings children attend so that she can provide highly consistent care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY259306
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	847100
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in North Lancing, West Sussex. The childminder has funding for children aged two, three or four years. She works Monday to Thursday, all day, including after school times and school holidays. The childminder has a recognised level 3 childcare qualification.

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