

Childminder Report



Inspection date

2 July 2015

Previous inspection date

13 December 2011

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

- Children experience extremely healthy lifestyles. They love eating fruits and vegetables because they grow, pick and prepare them daily. There is a strong emphasis on being outside and, therefore, children have plenty of fresh air and exercise.
- The childminder is highly skilled at drawing information from her observations of children's play. She uses this with excellent effect to assess their progress and plan for activities that meet their interests and needs. Therefore, children progress extremely well and they are well prepared for school.
- The childminder follows strict procedures to ensure that the assistants she employs are safe to work with the children. She ensures that they have a strong knowledge of how to safeguard children by regularly testing their knowledge. The childminder follows robust procedures to ensure children are safe at all times.
- Children adore stories and develop essential literacy skills for the future. They bring books in from home to share and enjoy activities based on these. Children join in story times with great enthusiasm. They say the words and perform actions they have learnt.
- Children develop extremely high levels of independence because the childminder considers her routines and organisation to ensure she can promote this at all times.
- The childminder has excellent systems in place to update parents daily about their children's experiences, care routines and progress. However, she does not collect as much information as possible about children's achievements in the home to help her see an even bigger picture of children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance parents' involvement in the assessment process even further by seeking more information about children's achievements at home in order to build an even more detailed picture of their progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and in the outdoors area.
- The inspector talked with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's and her assistants' qualifications and suitability checks.

Inspector

Kerry Lynn

Inspection findings

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

The childminder cleverly tailors activities to meet children's needs and interests in a fun way. She demonstrates a creative approach to providing experiences that children love. For example, when children discuss knights and castles she makes plans to visit a castle so they can act out being knights. The childminder is highly skilled in encouraging children to develop their ideas as she offers them well-planned challenges. For example, they made boats and learnt how to help them float through trial and error. The childminder and her assistant excel in their teaching skills. They use questions with excellent effect to extend children's ideas. The childminder pays exceptional attention to enhancing children's language development. Children enthusiastically sing songs about their experiences, such as their trip to the seaside. Children become confident talkers and those with English as an additional language understand and use the English language to communicate highly effectively.

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

Children are secure and happy because they have established strong bonds with both the childminder and her assistants. Children have excellent opportunities to learn how to keep themselves safe. Instead of telling them not to do something, the childminder asks them to think about what might happen if they do. Children strive to please because the childminder pays careful attention to her use of praise so that they know what they have done well. For example, she praised a child for 'good balancing' as they took care when walking over bumpy ground to fetch raspberries from a bush. Children show high levels of self-control and behave impeccably. Children are highly aware of the childminder's expectations of them. They eagerly follow routines with confidence. At mealtimes, they take their plates out of the cupboard and sit at the table ready to eat.

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

The childminder uses precise evaluation systems to ensure she meets the high standards that she strives to reach. She focuses greatly on monitoring her assistants' practice and providing support for them to develop their teaching techniques. She gives them detailed plans for the week's activities that include ideas for questions to use with the children to make the most of their learning. The childminder is highly active in attending courses and meetings to extend her professional knowledge. She feeds back to her assistants to share her knowledge and improve standards. Following a recent meeting the childminder attended, she and her assistants have changed the way in which they use questions to extend children's learning. This has improved children's learning experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413372
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	832083
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010. She lives in Lewes, East Sussex. The childminder is a qualified teacher. The childminder employs two assistants. One has a childcare qualification at level 2 and one is training towards a qualification at level 2.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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