

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder focuses on creating a home-from-home environment, where children freely make choices and follow their interests. This suits the children very well and helps them to feel particularly happy, settled, safe and secure in her care. Children thoroughly enjoy taking part in the wide range of experiences the childminder provides and are often taken out into the local community. They meet up with other childminders and their children for an exciting range of trips, such as to the seaside, woodlands and nearby castles. This helps children to learn about and experience their community, as well as building friendships with a wider range of children.

The childminder has good expectations for children and uses her interactions skilfully to guide their play and extend their learning. However, at times, quieter children do not receive the highest levels of support and interaction in their learning. Children show great care and consideration for others. For example, they gently stroke the childminder's pet cat and say, 'he likes this doesn't he?'. Children behave well and the childminder acts a positive role model, praising their achievements, good behaviour and kindness. Occasionally, children are not fully supported to understand why certain behaviours are not appropriate.

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

- The childminder knows the children very well and precisely assesses their development. She regularly identifies children's next steps in learning and links these with their interests to provide a stimulating and challenging environment. Her curriculum is ambitious and successfully encourages children's good progress in all areas of their learning. Children are confident, inquisitive learners, who are ready for the next stage in their education, including school.
- Children are particularly curious about the world around them and the childminder ignites this interest skilfully. During the inspection, as children ate snack, she encouraged them to observe the garden through the window and talk about what they could see. Children excitedly pointed to birds, trees and flowers, and the childminder extended their knowledge well, introducing the word 'starling'. Children also delighted in watching pet fish in the tank and enthusiastically chose and described their favourites.
- The childminder's nurturing approach helps her to build lovely relationships with the children. She is very sensitive to their needs and gives them the affection they need to play and explore her home with confidence. However, at times, louder and more talkative children take over the childminder's attention. This means that quieter children are not always given the same levels of attention during their play, to help extend their learning even further.
- The childminder is keen to continually develop children's experiences and

reflects on her provision regularly to identify areas for improvement. She keeps her knowledge and practice up to date through regular training, research and by sharing ideas with other childminders. She has recently learned how food choices can affect children's behaviour, energy levels and concentration. She now focuses more on providing children with fresh, nutritious and home-cooked meals and shares her experience with parents to promote these at home.

- The childminder makes good use of spontaneous learning opportunities and encourages children's thinking skills well. During the inspection, children thoroughly enjoyed looking at and discussing a picture display of their recent trips into the local community. They excitedly pointed to themselves and their friends, and the childminder challenged them to remember where they went and what they had done. Children express themselves confidently and are keen to share their ideas.
- Children develop strong social skills and enjoy playing together, such as when building train tracks and exploring musical instruments. They learn to share, take turns and consider each other's needs, and the childminder supports their behaviour well. At times however, she does not explain why certain behaviours are not appropriate, to help children fully understand her expectations.
- The childminder supports children's language development successfully. She listens closely to what two-year-olds say and repeats their speech back, modelling pronunciation and simple sentences. She encourages plenty of conversation with older children and creates an environment where talking and listening are valued highly.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is committed to ensuring children's safety. She regularly attends safeguarding training and keeps her knowledge up to date and fresh. She confidently knows the signs that a child's welfare may be at risk and the procedures to follow up on any such concerns. The childminder understands the need to protect children from extreme views and behaviours. She monitors children's attendance closely and provides a very safe and secure environment at all times.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- give children more consistent explanation to help their understanding of why certain behaviours are not appropriate
- focus support and attention more equally among the children, to give all children, including those who are quieter, the highest levels of adult interaction in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY244248
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10108543
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	13 March 2013

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives near Worthing, West Sussex. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 3 and provides care for children between 7am and 6pm from Monday to Thursday, all year.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ben Parsons

Inspection activities

- The inspector was given a tour of the premises by the childminder and carried out a learning walk to discuss the childminder's curriculum.
- The views and opinions of the children and parents were taken into account during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and jointly assessed the impact this has on children's learning and personal development with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including safeguarding policies and procedures, and children's records.

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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