

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder and make rapid progress in their learning and development. Meticulous planning of the home environment means children are consistently kept safe and secure. The childminder forms exceptionally close relationships with all the children. They show how much they feel comfortable in her care by the way in which they snuggle up to her for cuddles and reassurance. For example, babies excitedly crawl on to the childminder's lap and gaze longingly at the pictures in the book as she animatedly reads stories to older children.

The childminder is an exceptional teacher. She skilfully plans activities which all children, irrespective of their age, ability or stage of development, can join in with and be challenged appropriately. The childminder's dedication to every child and family is obvious. She has extremely high expectations of herself and strives to provide the best possible provision for every child in her care. Parents commend her service and highly respect her professionalism and expertise.

Children's behaviour is impeccable. They are extremely kind, courteous and respectful of one another. The childminder praises them highly and actively celebrates every child's achievements, no matter how small. Consequently, there is always an extremely happy, positive and harmonious environment within the home, in which every child feels special, valued and included.

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

- The outstanding teaching means children are highly motivated to learn. They are keen to solve problems, ask searching questions and listen well to explanations. For example, children worked hard to establish which tools would be the best to break ice and discover the hidden animals. These skills equip children well for starting school and help them to become confident, articulate learners.
- Children have excellent language and communication skills. From the earliest age, babies join in excitedly with songs, stories and rhymes. Older children demonstrate an extensive vocabulary and speak fluently about subjects they are interested in. Children who need extra help with their language are supported exceptionally well. The childminder works collaboratively with parents and other agencies, such as speech and language therapists, so that teaching methods are fully agreed and used consistently. As a result, these children make exceptional progress in their communication.
- The childminder plans a highly stimulating, interesting and engaging range of activities. For example, children frequently socialise with other children at groups, such as soft play and cooking club. They take an active part in growing their own vegetables within the childminder's garden and enjoy extensive

outings, for example to the park, farm, garden centre and beach.

- Children develop an excellent sense of belonging within the childminder's home. They speak happily about their many friends and the people who are particularly special to them. Children excitedly look through the 'picture box' full of photographs and happily recall previous events they have enjoyed. For example, they animatedly told the inspector about recent topics they have explored, such as Christmas.
- The childminder works tirelessly to review her service and make continuous improvements. She seeks out all professional training opportunities and frequently networks with other early years practitioners to share best practice ideas.
- Children develop an exceptional knowledge of the importance of their health and well-being. They take an active part in preparing nutritious snacks and use illustrative posters to check the nutrient content of each food and how it helps support their healthy development. For example, children correctly identified that strawberries help keep their brains, hearts and blood healthy.
- There are extensive opportunities for children to practise and acquire an excellent range of physical skills. For example, babies and children use different resources which enable them to move in a number of ways, such as steering wheeled toys and using tools for digging and pouring. These skills support the development of balance and coordination exceptionally well.
- Parents are overwhelmingly supportive of the childminder and show their appreciation for the level of care she gives their children. One parent summarised the views of many others by describing the childminder as 'amazing'. Another parent said, 'The childminder has been a huge influence in my children's life and has helped shape them into the fantastic individuals they are today. I cannot recommend her highly enough.'

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder prioritises children's safety and welfare at all times. She has an in-depth knowledge of her duties to safeguard children and keeps meticulous records if she has any concerns. The childminder carries out comprehensive risk assessments on all areas of her home and the outings and activities she completes with children. Stringent emergency arrangements are in place which children practise regularly and become very familiar with. The childminder is exceptionally vigilant and closely monitors the security of her home to ensure children are consistently kept safe. Further precautions are also taken with the use of social media. Although the childminder regularly communicates with parents through a secure site, she prioritises children's safety at all times and takes all relevant precautions to ensure every child's identity is protected.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360313
Local authority	Brighton and Hove
Inspection number	10129399
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	7 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Woodingdean, East Sussex. She operates Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6pm, throughout the year. The childminder holds an appropriate level 3 early years qualification. Funding is accepted for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Caswell

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the range of activities taking place both inside and outside, and evaluated how well the childminder supports children's learning and development.
- A tour of the childminder's home was completed to make sure all areas are safe and secure for children.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector at convenient times during the inspection to explain how she organises her service, how she supports children's well-being and how she keeps her knowledge and skills up to date.
- The children interacted with the inspector. They showed her photographs of previous topics they have explored and talked about what they like doing with the childminder.
- Written feedback provided for parents was viewed and taken into account.

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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