

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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 thrive in this exceptional, home-from-home, nurturing environment. The childminder's meticulous attention to detail means children's care and welfare needs are consistently met. Children are extremely safe and happy. They form exceedingly close, loving relationships with the childminder and her assistant. Parents highly commend the childminder. In their feedback, they use words such as 'amazing' and 'incredible' to describe her level of care and commitment to keeping their children safe.

The support for children's learning is outstanding. The childminder and her assistant are inspiring teachers who make full use of every opportunity to maximise children's learning. Exceptional use is made of the outside area to enrich children's development. For example, the extensive gardens and rural environment provide children with endless chances to learn about nature and seasonal change. Children delight in going out to feed the chickens each day and show care and concern when looking after the family pets. Their behaviour is impeccable and they clearly demonstrate impressive attitudes towards learning from a very young age.

Excellent attention is given towards supporting children's health and well-being. Every child is nurtured to reach his/her full potential. The childminder has exceptional skills in tuning into what children are doing and what they are interested in. She meticulously plans highly creative, innovative and inspiring activities which thoroughly engage all children and successfully support their differing learning needs.

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

- The outstanding teaching means every child makes rapid progress in their learning and development. Children are highly motivated and keen to develop their knowledge and skills. The childminder plans exciting activities which capture children's imagination and creativity. For example, when exploring the story of 'Owl Babies', children delight in recreating the story and using natural materials to make their own pretend nests.
- Children develop an exceptional range of skills which prepare them well for starting school. For example, from the youngest age, children are actively encouraged and supported to manage simple tasks for themselves, such as preparing their snacks. They manage this exceptionally well and show impressive levels of concentration and focus as they persevere to peel the fruit.
- The childminder helps children acquire an impressive understanding of simple mathematical concepts. For example, when children show an active interest in numbers and counting, the childminder initiates an exciting game using a dice and challenges children to count objects into number groups. Children manage

this well and demonstrate an excellent understanding of number value up to ten.

- Children communicate clearly and confidently. They develop an extensive vocabulary as the childminder and her assistant skilfully support children's language skills through in-depth conversation and highly effective questioning, and by singing many songs and rhymes. Children develop a real love of stories and the childminder and her assistant build on this by planning focused activities based on favourite books, such as 'The Gingerbread Man'.
- The childminder and her assistant work exceptionally well together. Their combined expertise and years of experience mean they continually reflect on their practice, enrich their knowledge through updated training and support each other to make consistent improvements. They have exceedingly high expectations of themselves. This is reflected in their drive and determination to give children the best possible start in life.
- Parents fully appreciate the level of care given to their children. Comments from parents include: 'The experiences children are given are varied, creative and so much fun – from bear hunts, to baking, to planting bulbs, dancing and sensory dinosaur tables. I am always amazed by the thought and care [the childminder] puts into every activity'. Another parent said: '[Child's name] has learned social skills which I wouldn't have had the opportunity to provide, such as group tasks, building dens, nature walks, pet care or messy play'.
- The childminder is an exceptional role model. She successfully teaches children of all ages to respect the needs of others and to celebrate every family's unique qualities. An extensive range of topic work helps children to learn about the differences in society and to recognise the needs of others. For example, children regularly go on outings within the local area to broaden their experiences and to meet other adults and children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are given the highest priority. The childminder and her assistant are exceptionally vigilant at all times in supervising children closely. They carry out rigorous risk assessments within the home and take immediate action to keep children safe from any hazards. Both the childminder and her assistant have an excellent knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures. They have an in-depth awareness of the possible indicators that suggest a child's welfare might be at risk and know exactly what to do to report any concerns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126210
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10136253
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 13
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in Newick, East Sussex. The childminder's husband and daughter are registered as her assistants. Childminding takes place from Monday to Thursday, from 8am until 6pm, for most of the year. Funding is accepted for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder's daughter is qualified to level 3 in early years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Caswell

Inspection activities

- The inspector talked to the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times during the inspection to find out how they organise their service and what they do keep children safe.
- Observations were made of the childminder and her assistant completing activities, both inside and outside. The inspector evaluated how well teaching supports children's learning.
- A range of records and documentation were sampled. These included safeguarding logs, training certificates and the childminder's self-evaluation report.
- A tour of the childminder's home and garden was completed to make sure all areas used by children are safe.
- The views of parents provided through written feedback were acknowledged and considered.

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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