

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
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Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
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Personal development	Outstanding
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Leadership and management	Outstanding
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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 outstanding

The childminder is an inspirational early years professional. She uses her extensive experience, skills and updated knowledge to provide the very best levels of provision for children. She has the highest aspirations, both of herself and of the minded children. Teaching is outstanding. Children's learning is meticulously well planned for. Every activity is utilised extremely well to maximise children's learning. For example, children's mathematical skills are extended to an impressive level, as they build towers with blocks and count confidently and accurately up to 30.

The curriculum is rich, broad and full of exciting activities which captivate children and fully support their interests. From their initial starting points, all children make rapid progress in their learning. The childminder's rigorous ways of monitoring children's development mean she quickly identifies any children who may need extra help, at a very early stage. The childminder works highly effectively with any other agencies who work with children, or any other settings children may attend. This means targeted next steps are identified precisely and accurately, and all parties work together to focus on children's priority learning needs. Consequently, any gaps in children's learning close quickly.

Children demonstrate how happy, safe and settled they feel with the childminder. They show how relaxed and comfortable they are in her care, and approach her confidently for cuddles, reassurance and emotional support. Any child who is tired, or in need of extra support, is rapidly soothed, showing how secure they feel in the childminder's care. Their behaviour is excellent for their age. Children quickly learn how to share, take turns and be kind and respectful to one another, and this is shown clearly in all aspects of their play.

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

- The childminder's dedication, devotion and commitment towards the children are clear to see. Parents are full of praise for her and the way in which she looks after their children. One parent said, 'The childminder is an extension of our family, and the children thrive on this.' Another parent said, 'The childminder is like a grandma who is willing to help you when you need it; she will bend over backwards to do what she can to help you.'
- Children develop an excellent range of skills to support their future learning. They listen attentively, and follow instructions confidently. They engage in rich conversations with their friends and with adults, and have an exceptional vocabulary for their age. They are patient, and try hard when tasks are initially challenging. For example, at lunchtime, one child found opening a packet in his lunch box difficult. The childminder sensitively supported him to have another go by himself, and when he successfully achieved his aim, he beamed with pride.

- The childminder plans an exciting, extensive range of outings and visits, which enrich children's learning and broaden their experiences. For example, they frequently visit the wildfowl trust, where they observe the birds, using binoculars, and match the different species they see to the pictures they have. Children enjoy daily activities with other children. They visit places of interest such as the beach, park woodland and local downs, to explore nature, learn about the local community and practise a range of physical skills.
- The cultural heritage of every child is strongly valued and respected. Children develop an excellent understanding of the similarities and differences between each other. For example, they recently learned about the Dutch culture of one of their friends by reading stories and learning about the wider world.
- The childminder uses technology exceptionally well to support children's learning. For example, following a discussion about lizards, the children and childminder used the internet to find out more about them. She ably supported this learning by using reference books to help consolidate the new information children had learned.
- Children's health and well-being are consistently well promoted. They spend frequent amounts of time outside in the fresh air each day, and learn about the importance of staying active. They plant their own fruits and vegetables in the childminder's garden, and excitedly water them and watch them grow, before they pick them and sample them in their snacks and meals. Due to the current health situation, the childminder is exceptionally mindful about supporting children's good health, and preventing the spread of infection. She teaches children the importance of handwashing, and helps them to understand how germs and infections spread, in a way they easily understand.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding is given the highest priority. Every precaution is taken to keep children safe. The childminder is vigilant in all aspects of her practice. She carries out thorough risk assessments on all areas of her home and on the outings she enjoys with the children. Supervision levels are excellent at all times, to ensure children's safety and well-being. The childminder has an in-depth understanding of safeguarding and of the wider issues which have an impact on children's safety and welfare. She has completed extensive training, and is exceptionally aware of the indicators which might suggest a child is at risk of harm. Her comprehensive policies and procedures confirm she knows exactly what action to take, should she need to report a concern about a child's safety.

Setting details

Unique reference number	155499
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10136299
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Littlehampton, West Sussex. She cares for children from Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, all year round. The childminder receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds a level 3 qualification in early years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Caswell

Inspection activities

- Ofsted is aware of the challenges that Covid-19 is currently posing to those we inspect. During this visit, the inspector took into consideration the impact of any measures being taken to slow the spread of Coronavirus by the provider. This has included the effect these measures have had on the current attendance of the children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, during activities taking place inside and outside.
- The childminder explained to the inspector how she plans for children's learning, and what actions she takes to keep children safe.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the childminder's home, to make sure all areas are safe for children.

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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