

Inspection date	19 January 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- A strong partnership with parents and carers ensures that they are fully involved in their children's learning, as they receive regular detailed and comprehensive information.
- Children are well prepared for starting school as they make good progress across the seven areas of learning, through easy access to a variety of toys and resources.
- Children are emotionally well supported by the childminder to share and take turns with toys and resources. As a result, they behave well because they know and understand the daily routine and rules of playing together.
- Children develop good mathematical understanding as the childminder introduces numbers, shapes and size into their play effectively.
- The childminder listens to what children have to say, responding to them in an appropriate way. As a result, children's communication and language is well supported as she introduces new words through books and discussion.
- Effective risk assessments ensure that all hazards in the environment have been identified and minimised or removed, so that children remain safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always support children's personal independence, for example, by supporting them to play a more significant role in preparing food at snack time.
- The childminder does not always use questions effectively to challenge and extend older children's learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen children's personal independence skills, for example, by supporting them fully to take part in preparing food at snack time
- focus more precisely on older children's progress, for example, by asking by asking challenging questions to extend their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's activities inside the childminder's home.
- The inspector looked at children's records, self-evaluation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She completes accurate, detailed assessments and effectively evaluates these in order to identify children's next steps in their learning. This means that children are well supported in their progress. Each child has their own learning journal file. This contains detailed information for parents about their child's achievements, and activities at the childminder's home. All the information is recorded on an interactive computer programme, which allows parents to instantly access information about what their children do and learn. This means parents are fully involved in their children's learning and can support this at home. However, the childminder does not always extend older children's learning further with challenging questions. As a result, children's learning is not always continually stretched during their play.

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

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care and eagerly show their close attachment to her. The childminder takes time at the beginning of the child's placement to ask parents about their likes and dislikes. She speaks to parents about babies' daily routines. This ensures their needs are met and supports children to quickly settle into her care. As a result, children are confident within the childminder's home. Children move safely around the house, using the lounge, playroom and conservatory to play, being able to easily access resources and equipment. Children have fewer opportunities to play a more significant role in preparing food, in order to enhance their independence skills. Children develop an understanding of a healthy lifestyle as they enjoy regular opportunities to be outside to enjoy the fresh air and exercise. They develop an understanding of world as they grow fruit from seeds, which they later enjoy eating.

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

The childminder has a strong knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures. As a result, she fully understands her role and responsibility in keeping children safe at all times. All of the required documentation is in place for the safe and efficient management of children. For example, Disclosure and Barring Service checks are in place for the childminder and her husband, and children's personal details and records are kept confidential. This means children are fully protected. The childminder regularly reviews her self-evaluation to improve and work on her practice and ensure that she keeps up to date with training. For example, she evaluates her practice and environment, and considers areas for future development, such as improvements to observations of children's progress. Partnerships with other settings, such as the local schools and nursery, are effective and the childminder has established strong links with them. As a result, children receive a complementary approach to their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY437028
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	956967
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Cannock, Staffordshire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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