

Inspection date	30 January 2015
Previous inspection date	14 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and his role as a professional practitioner. As a result, all children benefit from exceptionally high-quality learning experiences.
- Children's individual progress is exceptionally well monitored and supported. Consequently, children make excellent progress towards their next stage in learning and readiness for school.
- The childminder works exceptionally well with his co-childminder and other early years practitioners, to maintain and enhance the exceptional quality of teaching and learning experiences for children.
- Children's emotional well-being is significantly enhanced in all aspects of their care and learning. Consequently, all children develop high levels of confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder is vigilant about children's safety and security and gives the utmost priority to risk assessment. This enables children to freely explore the indoor and outdoor environment safely.
- The childminder has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Consequently, all of the necessary information is obtained from parents to ensure their child's safe care.
- The childminder practises robust safeguarding procedures, including the supervision and vetting of adults in the household, to ensure children are protected at all times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the already excellent partnerships with parents. For example, by helping them to explore the seven areas of learning, so that they can continue to enhance their child's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the home and conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records and the childminder's planning records.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of the childminder and discussed his training and self-evaluation plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written information included in the childminder's parent questionnaire.

Inspector

Jayne Rooke

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a varied, exciting and challenging range of activities which ignite children's enthusiasm to explore and investigate. For example, babies and young children show high levels of curiosity and interest in their surroundings, as they crawl and move towards toys of interest to them. The childminder gently supports them while they explore with paint. As a result, very young children delight in the marks and patterns they make with their fingers and toes. The childminder expertly involves pre-school children in painting activities, which complement their creative interests. Consequently, children express their fascination and enthusiasm as they observe how different colours mix and change. The childminder significantly enhances children's outdoor learning experiences with adventurous outings to the forest, where children learn how to build dens and play games. Children's natural explorations are further enhanced as they play and explore mud and other natural materials in the 'outdoor kitchen' in the garden.

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

The childminder builds very strong bonds with children and their families. As a result, boys and girls benefit from exceptionally secure relationships which foster their sense of well-being. The childminder helps children to develop a clear understanding of risk and consequence. For example, school-age children learn how to keep play spaces tidy and free from hazards, for their own and young children's safety. This helps them to adopt responsible and considerate attitudes. The childminder makes excellent use of his home and outdoor resources, to significantly enhance children's good health. For example, children benefit from daily fresh air and exercise during their active outdoor play. The childminder skilfully asks questions to enhance children's understanding of why it is important to wash their hands after stroking the pet dogs. This secures children's good health and hygiene. The childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of children's individual needs, to ensure that they receive close and supportive attention when needed. Children are highly valued for their individual characteristics, cultures and interests. Consequently, children's home language and beliefs are enthusiastically celebrated.

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

The childminder demonstrates a highly enthusiastic approach to all aspects of his work with children. He works collaboratively with other childcare professionals, to share and explore best practice ideas. He attends an array of training events, to continually enhance his professional expertise and knowledge. Consequently, children benefit from enhanced learning and care experiences. The childminder is highly considerate of the needs of each child and prioritises their welfare, in close partnership with parents. However, there is room to enhance further learning opportunities for children. For example, by helping parents to explore the meaning and purpose of the seven areas of learning, so that they can continue to extend their child's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440413
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1003300
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011. He lives and works with his wife, who is a co-childminder, in Rugeley, Staffordshire. The childminder operates from 6.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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