

Inspection date	15 April 2015
Previous inspection date	24 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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

- The childminder has a clear understanding of children's learning and development needs. She ensures that children have access to educational programmes that cover all areas of learning.
- The quality of teaching is good. Planned activities are interesting and provide children with challenging experiences that enhance their learning and development. Children are motivated learners who are making good progress.
- Children's language development is well promoted. The childminder talks to the children constantly about what they are doing. She uses a good range of effective questioning skills and gives children time to think and respond before offering any support that they may need.
- The childminder understands the importance of healthy lifestyles. She provides children with nutritious snacks and drinks and ensures that children have regular access to the outdoor learning environment. Children are involved in planting vegetables and learning about growth.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding and how to promote children's safety and well-being. She uses her policies and procedures and risk assessments to support her practice in ensuring children are kept safe and protected from harm.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's next steps for learning are not always consistently used to inform the planning of activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the planning process to ensure that all children's next steps for learning are consistently planned for, so that children have access to more activities that enhance their good progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between children and the childminder during play.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation including children's developmental records, a range of policies and procedures and evidence of suitability for the childminder and household members.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a joint observation.
- The childminder had a tour of the premises, including all areas used for childminding.

Inspector

Lynsey Hurst

Inspection findings

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

Children have access to a good variety of resources and activities. Children are encouraged to make independent choices within their play to enhance and consolidate their prior learning. Regular observations and assessments identify clear next steps for children's learning and are used to inform the planning. However, this is not always carried out consistently enough to make sure the educational programmes are highly effective in further raising the levels of children's achievements. Children are given time to explore and experiment during activities and the childminder adapts activities to ensure that all children's abilities are considered. Planned activities promote all areas of learning. For example, when making sensory bottles, the childminder introduces new words and helps children to understand size, shape, colour and texture.

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. They demonstrate secure attachments and are confident in their environment, particularly in the presence of strangers. Children are encouraged to play with each other to develop relationships with their peers and learn from each other. The children are extremely well behaved. The childminder provides them with clear and consistent expectations of behaviour, explaining in a calm manner why these are necessary. The childminder provides support and guidance through discussions to ensure children are learning about safety. Children are reminded about not running inside and explanations of why are given. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Children are encouraged to support their peers and work together. The childminder ensures that children are developing independence skills and can manage their own personal hygiene needs in preparation for their move to school.

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

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of working in partnerships with parents and other providers. She uses information from parents and other providers to promote children's learning consistently. Parents comment that they are happy with the provision and that they receive regular feedback and share information regarding their child's development. The childminder evaluates the quality of what she does through feedback from children and their parents. She uses training to support any identified improvements that will enhance the care and learning the children receive. The childminder tracks children's learning and development and uses this to ensure children's progress is consistent. Any identified gaps are prioritised and are used as a focus for planning to ensure gaps close quickly and children's needs are met.

Setting details

Unique reference number	111769
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	874722
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 June 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Kingsley Holt, Staffordshire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder is registered to accept early years funding for two-, three- and four-year-olds.

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