

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 May 2015

Previous inspection date

17 September 2008

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

- Teaching is good because the childminder has an effective structured approach to assessing children's achievements. Consequently, children's stage of development can be easily determined and shared with parents or other professionals. As a result, learning experiences are tailored to help children make good progress.
- Partnerships with parents, other professionals and schools are strong. The childminder seeks the views of parents and children. This helps to identify effective targets and drive forward ongoing improvements that benefit the children attending.
- The childminder demonstrates a secure knowledge of safeguarding issues and has attended training to make sure her knowledge is kept up to date. Therefore, children's safety and well-being are well promoted.
- The childminder takes children on a range of outings, which fosters their understanding of the world and physical development. This includes visits to the swimming pool, country parks, the zoo, and the canal where they feed the ducks.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder provides fewer opportunities for children to find ways to represent and develop their own ideas during creative art activities.
- There are not enough resources which positively reflect people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to explore and develop their own ideas during expressive arts and design, allowing more freedom to direct their own play
- provide positive images that embrace differences in people with special educational needs and/or disabilities participating in valued and interesting activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and viewed the garden.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and conducted a joint review of an activity with her.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's suitability, training and qualifications, and the childminder's self-evaluation and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day and from information included in the setting's own parent survey.

Inspector

Linda Yates

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 learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has a strong awareness of how to promote children's progress towards the early learning goals. As a result, children receive good teaching and are effectively gaining skills for the next phase in their learning, and school. Children listen intently during story time. The childminder makes sure that children can see the story book and she models a clear voice with expression to hold children's interest. This promotes children's literacy skills. The childminder uses this activity to support children's next steps, such as talking about the similarities in rhyming words. The childminder models linking sounds to letters and as a result, children are confident in naming many of the letters' sounds. Children choose to do a jigsaw puzzle. The childminder weaves in mathematics as she models counting and positional language, such as top, bottom and middle. The childminder plans regular craft activities for the children based on their interests. However, children do not always have the opportunity to find their own way of doing things, to explore materials or to solve problems.

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

The childminder develops warm and secure relationships with the children and as a result, children have a strong sense of security and belonging. Children's emotional security is addressed well because a good settling-in procedure is implemented as agreed with parents. The childminder takes the children to the weekly toddler group and the library. This helps children learn to socialise, take turns and develop friendships, thereby promoting their personal, social and emotional development well. Children have good opportunities to take safe risks and experience physical challenge when they use the trampoline in the garden and visit soft-play establishments. The childminder has positive images of others that reflect the wider multicultural community. However, there not enough resources that reflect those with diverse physical characteristics, including disabilities. As a result, children have fewer opportunities to gain awareness of individual differences.

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

The childminder's childcare qualification has helped her to effectively implement all the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, children are well cared for and make good progress. The childminder makes sure that the educational programme covers all the areas of learning. She uses suitable guidance to check children's progress and plan for the next steps in their learning. The childminder regularly attends the local authority forum meetings. She makes links with other childminders and they share ideas for good practice. The childminder also attends regular training opportunities. This means children enjoy positive learning experiences based on current practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	209978
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	865657
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 September 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999. She operates all year round from 6am to 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
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M1 2WD

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