

# Childminder Report

**Inspection date**

2 July 2015

Previous inspection date

8 June 2010

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder and her assistants have an excellent understanding of how young children learn. They provide an exceptional range of highly stimulating and challenging activities and resources. As a result, children are keen to learn and make rapid progress.
- The childminder monitors children's learning and meticulously assesses their progress. This ensures that her planning and learning opportunities are sharply focused on the individual needs of each child. As a result, children are continuously challenged and make exceptional progress in their learning.
- Children have strong attachments to the childminder and her assistants. They are extremely confident, sociable and self-assured. The childminder provides a safe, secure and homely environment where children's happiness is a high priority.
- The childminder and her assistants are excellent role models as they are kind, gentle and calm. They promote sharing and turn taking and encourage the use of good manners. As a result, children learn how to behave extremely well with others.
- Robust risk assessments, safety measures and comprehensive safeguarding procedures ensure that children's safety and well-being are highly prioritised.
- Comprehensive self-evaluation demonstrates the childminder's continuous drive for excellence. This includes the views of her assistants, parents and children. As a result, all stakeholders are involved in the continual development of this excellent provision.
- The childminder provides a highly professional service to families, meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to exceptional standards.
- Partnerships with parents are superb. Parents receive highly informative daily diaries and regular, detailed progress reviews. Excellent activity ideas to further support children's next steps are also provided to extend their learning opportunities at home.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the excellent, outdoor play opportunities to further enhance children's problem-solving skills and opportunities to work together.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and care routines, both indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and had a discussion about children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, assistants and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding, complaints and risk assessments.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and her assistants.
- The inspector viewed the childminder's self-evaluation form and discussed with the childminder her plans for improvement.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers from written testimonials provided to the childminder and the childminder's parent survey.

### Inspector

Sharon Lea

## Inspection findings

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

Children of all ages are highly motivated learners who thoroughly enjoy their time in this wonderful setting. This is because the childminder and her assistants provide an exceptionally stimulating environment, where children actively engage in play and learning. In the outdoor sandpit, children learn how to mould sand to build a sandcastle by adding water. Children of all ages use chalks to make marks, developing their early writing skills. In the water tray, the childminder and her assistants challenge children's thinking skills. They ask older children to predict which items will sink or float in the water. At the same time, younger children practise filling and emptying containers and learn concepts, such as over and under. In the outdoor kitchen, children are encouraged to use language, such as full, empty, big and little. This develops their mathematical understanding about capacity extremely well. Consequently, children are exceptionally well prepared for their future learning in school. However, there is scope to develop children's problem-solving skills even further in the outdoor area.

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

Children are cared for exceptionally well by the childminder and her assistants. Excellent settling-in arrangements mean that children settle quickly into the homely setting. Parents express very high levels of satisfaction about their children's happiness and that their children become part of the childminder's extended family. The childminder develops children's understanding about the needs of others superbly. This includes the setting sponsoring a child in Africa, which helps children to learn about different cultures and lifestyles. Children are highly independent, attending to their own toileting needs as soon as they are able to and putting on their own shoes for outdoor play. Children's good health is excellently promoted through healthy snacks and meals and unlimited access to the wonderful, outdoor environment. Children of all ages eat lots of fresh fruit enthusiastically and the childminder develops their understanding about why fruit is good for their bodies.

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

The childminder has exceptionally high expectations of herself, her assistants and the children. She actively seeks new ideas through training, childminding network meetings and online childminding forums. As a result, her policies and procedures are current and continually evolving to reflect new initiatives. The childminder and her assistants work superbly as a team. They utilise their individual strengths and skills to provide the best possible opportunities for children. Regular appraisals and staff meetings contribute to the continuous development of individual skills and reflection of all areas of the childminding practice. At the heart of everything that they do, is the safety, happiness and enjoyment of the children in their care. Partnerships with other settings, such as schools, are well established to support excellent continuity of learning for children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY395795
<b>Local authority</b>	Staffordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	859736
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	15
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	35
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	8 June 2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in the Stretton area of Burton-on-Trent. She works with several assistants. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for most school holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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