

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 October 2015

Previous inspection date

15 June 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder's professional attitude to the childminding provision means there is a constant drive to provide a high-quality service. She has undertaken additional qualifications, attends training regularly and researches changes in legislation or the latest teaching techniques. This has a positive effect on developing her good teaching skills.
- Parents are delighted with the service their children receive. They are especially complimentary about the wide range of activities and trips children enjoy and the freshly prepared, nutritious, home-cooked food the childminder serves.
- The childminder makes careful assessments of children's abilities and uses these to plan the next steps in children's learning. She challenges children to become independent, think for themselves and persevere.
- Children are well motivated and enthusiastic learners, which are the key skills they need for the move on to primary education.
- Children build very close relationships with the childminder and other children. These relationships and clear routines ensure their physical and emotional needs are promptly met. Children's behaviour is good. They are very kind to their friends and understand about rules and being fair to others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children who are less sure of new activities or concepts are not always fully supported to make the best progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the good teaching even further to actively support children who are less sure of activities or tasks to maximise their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation, a selection of policies and children's records.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection, read all the written testimonials and took account of their views.

Inspector

Sarah Rhodes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She uses her knowledge of the learning and development requirements effectively to promote children's learning well. The childminder ensures her assistants are fully informed about the welfare requirements and are supported to provide meaningful learning experiences for children under her supervision. The childminder strives to improve. She has attended training on reflective practice and this has helped her contemplate how she can analyse her teaching to identify areas for development. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a clear understanding of what would constitute a safeguarding concern and what she should do about any concerns she may have. She ensures she keeps up to date with changes in legislation and guidance documents. This helps her implement the latest thinking on safeguarding and welfare issues.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's teaching is good and children are making good progress in all areas of learning. They are becoming inquisitive learners who are constantly experimenting and exploring due to the rich learning environment the childminder provides. Children become very independent at an early age, they have ample opportunities to make decisions for themselves. However, younger children who find new activities confusing are not always helped to fully understand new concepts before they decide to move on to something different. The childminder is extremely attentive to what children are doing and builds a deep understanding of their abilities. Children are developing a love of reading and are very articulate. Some of the ways their knowledge of the world is developed is through imaginative play and a wide variety of trips out into natural environments and museums. The childminder regularly assesses children's progress and identifies areas where she needs to provide additional activities to extend their learning. She ensures parents are well informed about their child's progress and on how they can extend their child's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and happy and their behaviour is good. They understand what is expected of them and respond to the positive atmosphere and clear routines. The childminder ensures children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. They have opportunities for regular exercise in the garden and nature walks. Children also develop an understanding of the importance of a balanced diet and the childminder encourages them to try new foods.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making expected progress in all areas of learning. They have made very good progress in their social skills and have excellent concentration and communication skills. Parents report that older children have been well prepared for the move on to the next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417621
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	874359
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffordshire. She has two registered assistants, however, neither currently work with her. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. However, she is flexible with her working hours to meet parents' childcare needs. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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