

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 October 2015

Previous inspection date

13 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder uses a broad range of robust policies and procedures to guide her practice. She gives exceptionally high priority to children's safety and welfare as well as the safety of activities and the premises.
- The childminder has an excellent knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop. This, along with her inspirational teaching practice, results in children making excellent progress in their learning and development from their starting points.
- The excellent range of accessible resources offers a highly stimulating and rich environment. Children develop an eagerness to learn as they investigate, solve problems, explore and lead their own learning. Children are extremely well prepared for their eventual move to school. In the care of this exceptional professional they develop positive attitudes towards learning.
- The well-qualified childminder is constantly striving to improve her skills and knowledge to enhance her professional development. She continues to attend extensive ongoing training courses. She utilises her learning to improve outcomes for children in her care who benefit from outstanding learning experiences.
- Children thrive at this welcoming and supportive provision. Close attachments between children and the childminder are obvious. Children's behaviour is exceptional.
- The childminder is highly driven and has an enviable dedication to delivering the highest standards of care and learning for the children she cares for. Furthermore, her unrelenting commitment and desire to continually improve demonstrates an excellent capacity to maintain this quality over time.
- Parents are significantly involved in their children's learning. The childminder has effective strategies to exchange information about children's learning with other providers where care is shared.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enrich children's understanding of the wider community to find out even more about the lives of others, communities and traditions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and reviewed the quality of teaching.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the home used for childminding and the toys and resources available.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies, procedures and the childminder's self-evaluation record.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of adults living and working on the premises.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of her responsibility to protect children in her care. Self-evaluation is effective and captures the views of parents and children. The childminder uses feedback exceptionally well to evaluate her teaching, children's progress and the activities she provides. She has identified that she would like to help children to learn even more about the wider community. The childminder shares best practice with other childminders.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder and parents complete detailed assessments and plan together from children's starting points. Jointly, they regularly review and discuss children's progress. These meticulous assessments help the childminder to identify and close any gaps in children's learning. The childminder provides activities and ideas to parents for them to enjoy with their children at home. Children are provided with endless, stimulating and challenging opportunities to extend their learning and development. Children's mathematical development is promoted well. Younger children learn to count, as older children are encouraged to recognise numbers. The experienced childminder supports children to develop excellent communication skills. She encourages older children to recall recent events. She also develops younger children's and babies' communication skills exceptionally well. The childminder reinforces to babies that their sounds convey meaning and are valued. She repeats their babbles and comments on what they are doing. Children are highly motivated, eager and engaged, which prepares them exceptionally well for starting school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Well-organised, settling-in arrangements include obtaining detailed information from parents about each child's care needs. The childminder uses this information to meet children's individual needs from the outset. This helps to promote children's and parents' confidence at a time of change. Children learn to keep themselves safe, for example, by not climbing on the furniture and not running in the home. The childminder provides nutritious home-cooked meals. Children take part in activities that help them to learn about healthy lifestyles, including buying, growing and eating their own vegetables. They enjoy and learn about the benefits of fresh air and exercise. Children are provided with excellent opportunities to be independent. Their personal development is very well supported. Babies are encouraged to feed themselves. Older children show maturity as they include babies in their play. The childminder gives all children individual attention and regular praise, which successfully builds on their self-esteem and developing confidence.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder provides an inspiring and inclusive environment. All children, regardless of their age or ability, spend their time purposely and make rapid progress in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224361
Local authority	Stoke on Trent
Inspection number	866159
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 September 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Stoke-on-Trent. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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