

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 March 2016

Previous inspection date

17 May 2010

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 makes frequent observations of children and assesses their progress. She uses this information to identify any gaps in development and to plan for their next steps in learning. All children make good progress as they take part in a range of activities linked to their individual needs and interests.
- Children develop a strong emotional attachment to the childminder, who is warm and welcoming. They play happily in the homely environment and are confident to make choices and decisions.
- Children behave very well. They learn to share resources and act kindly towards one another. The childminder is a good role model and encourages the children to be polite and well mannered.
- Parents are kept informed of their children's progress through daily discussions and opportunities to look at learning journals.
- The childminder reflects on her practice so that she can develop and implement ideas for further improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder regularly discusses children's care needs with parents, she does not consistently share specific next steps in children's learning or supply information about how to support children's learning at home.
- The childminder does not always use assessment precisely enough to identify where further challenge would enable children to make excellent progress in their learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more information to parents about how they can support children's learning at home
- provide even greater levels of challenge to help all children make exceptional progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector made observations of and discussed the outcome of a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning, documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and evidence of suitability checks.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation form and plans for improvement.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about the welfare of a child in her care. She completes risk assessments for the premises to help ensure the environment is safe for children to learn and explore in. The childminder is well qualified and her commitment to professional development is good. She is a member of the local childminding network group. This provides opportunities for her to share ideas with other providers and keep up to date with changes and reforms. Parents' written comments are very complimentary. They describe the childminder as approachable and trustworthy. Links with other local settings are good, ensuring continuity in children's care, learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching is purposeful and children are encouraged to learn through developmentally appropriate play. Children enjoy singing activities. They confidently suggest songs and demonstrate good language skills as they sing their favourite rhymes. Their speaking and communication skills grow as they chat with the childminder. For example, they recall their walk to school and discuss how they saw the buds on the trees. Children develop curiosity and interest in books as the childminder reads familiar stories to them. They lift the flaps in the book and use positional language as they describe what they can see in the illustrations. Children count as they build tall towers and start to draw simple shapes using paint. This helps to support their mathematical development and mark-making skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder organises settling-in visits to help children become used to her setting. These visits enable the childminder to gain information from parents about the care, learning and development of their child. For example, she asks about any special dietary needs and what their child can already do independently. Healthy lifestyles are promoted well. Children are provided with nutritious snacks and follow good hygiene routines. They have regular opportunities to exercise and play outdoors. The childminder engages children during daily routines to promote their independence. She offers praise and encouragement as children share responsibility for small tasks. Children enjoy visits to the local library and toddler groups. They develop an understanding of diversity and positive attitudes towards others through a range of activities and resources.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder has effective systems in place to monitor the progress made by the children. She knows each child well and understands how to provide additional support if required. This ensures that no child falls behind as gaps in learning are quickly identified and addressed. Children make good progress from their starting points. The childminder helps children to develop the confidence they need to embrace new situations and to mix socially with others. Children learn to cooperate with others and develop the key skills needed for future learning and later moves to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	401983
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	855411
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 May 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Cheslyn Hay, Cannock. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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