

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 September 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 is well qualified and experienced. She demonstrates a good understanding of how children learn and plans interesting activities to help them make their next steps in learning.
- Children behave well in this happy, friendly atmosphere. The childminder is a positive role model. She encourages children to respect each other, be kind and share resources.
- Children are confident and their emotional well-being is promoted effectively by the childminder. They are praised for their achievements, which gives them the confidence to try new things or repeat more-challenging activities.
- The childminder has good partnerships with parents. She keeps parents well informed through daily verbal communication and by using a range of digital media. This good communication helps her to meet children's individual needs effectively.
- The childminder is reflective and committed to improving her provision. She values the views of parents and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not yet target training to help raise the quality of teaching and learning even further.
- Strategies to encourage parents to contribute to children's ongoing learning and assessment are not yet wholly successful.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development more sharply on raising the quality of teaching and outcomes for children's learning further
- develop more successful strategies to encourage parents to contribute their own information towards children's assessments and learning in the setting and at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children and the childminder throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records and policies and checked evidence of the childminder's suitability.
- The inspector made observations and discussed the outcome of a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of written testimonials and responses to questionnaires that were provided by parents.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and keeps herself informed of changes to legislation and guidance. She is knowledgeable about the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. The childminder knows how to report any concerns. Robust risk assessment procedures are in place and help to identify and minimise any hazards within the environment. The childminder reviews her risk assessments on a daily basis. Parents have continuous access to children's learning records and comment that they are very happy with the care provided for their children. Relatively new systems in place enable the childminder to monitor the progress made by children. The childminder knows each child well and can identify any areas of learning where additional support is required.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses ongoing observations and makes accurate assessments of children's progress. She uses this information to plan for each child's next steps in learning to ensure they make good progress. Children seek out the childminder to join in their play. She helps children to develop their communication and language skills. For example, the childminder sits with children, introducing new vocabulary and repeating words back to them. She helps children to pronounce words correctly. Children are confident talkers who are at ease with asking questions and making their own suggestions. Young children explore a range of sensory objects and musical instruments. They investigate how the items work and are supported effectively by the childminder. Older children use their imagination as they role play caring for their 'baby'. They work out which size of box they need to make a cot for their doll. This helps to develop their ability to solve problems and develop their mathematical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder organises settling-in visits to help children become used to her setting. She also uses this time to gather a range of information from parents. She is extremely responsive to the physical and emotional needs of babies and young children for rest, refreshment and comfort. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. They are provided with nutritious and balanced snacks and meals. Children follow good hygiene routines and are encouraged to begin to take responsibility for their own personal care from an early age. They have regular opportunities to be active and engage in physical play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are active and independent learners. The childminder takes children on visits to local pre-schools when they are ready to move on and shares information with the new setting. This helps to provide continuity in their care and learning needs during times of change. Older children find their name on arrival at the setting. They confidently write a list, giving meaning to the marks they make. All children are making good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475381
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1035399
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Stafford. She operates her provision 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 4.

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