

Childminder Report

Inspection date	6 December 2016
Previous inspection date	12 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 has improved her provision since the last inspection. She now has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. The childminder makes sure children are provided with a good range of activities that is challenging and stimulating. This ensures good outcomes for children.
- The childminder has improved her assessment of children's progress. She uses her observations to track children's learning and development and to identify secure next steps in their learning. The childminder carries out the progress check for children aged between two and three years and provides parents with a written summary. This helps to ensure children are progressing well.
- The childminder talks to parents about what their child already knows in order to help her identify clear starting points from the outset. She encourages daily two-way exchange of information with parents about their child's achievements. This helps parents to continue with their child's learning at home.
- The childminder is very warm and caring with the children in her care. She joins in with their play and effectively uses praise and encouragement. This helps children to develop strong emotional attachments and begin to develop friendships with others. This also helps to promote children's readiness for their move to school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently support children's listening and understanding skills.
- The childminder does not always provide enough opportunities for children to gain a good awareness of how they differ from, or are similar to, other people.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to develop their listening and understanding skills
- find more ways to help children develop their understanding of cultural diversity that reflects the local community and other backgrounds.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint review of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of all persons living at the setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She also talked to the children in attendance.

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder makes sure she checks the indoor and outdoor areas of her home each morning to ensure the premises are safe for children. She is able to identify the possible signs of abuse and neglect, and knows what to do and who to contact should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder has good relationships with other providers and the local schools. She talks to them about her plans for children's future learning to ensure a consistent approach by all. The childminder's self-evaluation of the provision includes regular discussions with parents and their children. This helps her to focus on improvement over time. The childminder regularly finds out about current early years practice to keep up to date. This enables her to use the information and knowledge to plan good experiences for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides children with resources that support their interests. This helps children to lead their own learning as they explore and investigate their environment. Children's interest in transport is fostered by the childminder as she engages in their play. She uses these opportunities to enhance children's learning about numbers, colours, size and position. The childminder uses children's interest in transport and their favourite characters to enhance their love of books as they talk about their favourite characters. During these activities, the childminder uses commentary, questioning techniques and demonstration. This helps to challenge children's thinking, foster their problem-solving skills and extend their communication skills effectively. Younger children enjoy their walks to school to collect the older children. The childminder talks to the younger children about starting school. She encourages them to discuss what it will be like to help emotionally prepare them for this important move.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and motivated learners. They behave well and clearly understand what is expected of them. Parents provide important information when children first start and the childminder uses this to ensure children's individual care needs are met. The childminder provides healthy snacks for children and talks to them about the importance of eating well. Children take manageable risks in their play as they use the equipment in the garden and at the local parks, under close supervision at all times. This promotes their growing physical skills and their awareness of developing a healthy lifestyle effectively.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are able to make choices about what they want to play with. They are independent and they have a go at putting their own coats and shoes on to go outdoors. Children learn about the world around them as they observe and talk about wild flowers on their nature walks. They feed the ducks and collect stones, washing them ready to decorate as part of their creative activities. All children are making good progress in their learning and development. They are gaining the key skills to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	209396
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1057082
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 July 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Stafford. She operates from 8am until 5.15pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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