

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 August 2017

Previous inspection date

30 September 2013

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 builds and maintains positive relationships with parents, school staff and the local authority adviser. This helps her to evaluate the effectiveness of her childminding practice and identify accurate targets that promote good outcomes for children.
- The childminder's assessment of children's progress is comprehensive, accurate and clear. She uses this information to identify precise and challenging next steps in children's learning. The childminder checks that the activities she provides fully support children to develop their skills across all aspects of their learning.
- The childminder provides good opportunities for children to learn about nature from first-hand experiences. For example, she takes them on regular walks around the lake to observe wildlife, such as geese and swans. This, along with ongoing discussion, helps to consolidate children's learning.
- The childminder knows the children well and offers a homely, caring and nurturing environment. This helps children to feel relaxed and safe and to engage in new experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make the best use of a broad range of techniques to fully support younger children's communication and language skills.
- The childminder does not provide younger children with enough opportunities to develop the skills they need to promote their independence at mealtimes. For example, she does not encourage them to independently use cutlery, such as a spoon.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the use of techniques that encourage younger children to start talking and expressing themselves, so that their language and communication skills are fully enhanced throughout the day
- encourage younger children to develop increased independence skills during mealtimes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has attended child protection training. She has a good understanding of the possible signs of abuse and knows what to do and who to contact should she have a concern about a child in her care. The childminder seeks opportunities to improve her practice. For example, she attends the local authority forum meetings to keep her practice up to date and to gain new ideas that help children achieve as much as possible in their learning. The childminder regularly discusses children's progress with parents and helps them to support their child's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. Children cautiously explore the coloured shaving foam with the tools and as they feel more confident, they use their hands. They smile as they enjoy this sensory experience and laugh with the childminder at the foam on their faces. The childminder follows each child's interests, changing the activity when needed to maintain their focus. For example, she keeps introducing different tools to use with the foam until children find one that captures their interest. She extends the activity further by showing children how to make marks on paper with the tools and their hands. The childminder regularly takes the children to the childminder drop-in group at the local library. This helps to develop children's social skills and promote their interest in books. The childminder prepares children well for the next stage in their learning, including nursery or school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional and physical development is supported well. There are good settling-in procedures to help make sure that children are comfortable leaving their parents before they start at the setting. The childminder uses successful strategies and positive role modelling to promote children's good behaviour. Meals and snacks provided for the children are nutritious and well balanced. There is direct access to the garden with a good range of toys to promote children's physical development. The childminder regularly takes the children to the local playground to use the climbing apparatus. This helps them to learn to take manageable risks and experience physical challenge in their play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children follow their own interests, show curiosity and use their senses to explore the world around them. For example, they push an adult-sized chair and listen to the sound it makes as its legs scratch on the floor. Children confidently press the button on a toy and enthusiastically dance to the music it plays. They use sounds in their play as they sit on the floor and play with the small world digging machines. Children concentrate as they successfully fit shapes into spaces on the wooden shape sorting toy train. They are confident, happy and seek out others to share experiences with.

Setting details

Unique reference number	209623
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1063692
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Wolverhampton. She operates all year round from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides overnight care when requested.

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