

Childminder Report

Inspection date	10 January 2018
Previous inspection date	8 June 2015

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's systems for observation and assessment are good. She identifies what children need to learn next and closely monitors their learning and development. The childminder and parents regularly share information about children's progress in the setting and at home.
- The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment. Children develop close bonds with the caring and friendly childminder. This helps to support their emotional well-being. Children are very happy and settled. Behaviour is good.
- The childminder uses her experience and good knowledge well to support children's learning and development. She demonstrates good teaching skills. During activities children have chosen, the childminder sensitively interacts and extends their learning.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and seeks the views of parents and children on the quality of her setting. She has identified some priorities for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently share precise information about children's learning and development with other settings where children also attend, to help support transitions and learning to the highest level.
- Not enough information is gained from parents when children first start, in order to identify children's starting points as quickly as possible and help plan for their future learning from the outset.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve partnerships with other settings where children also attend and enable a regular two-way flow of information that consistently supports children's learning and development
- gather more information from parents on entry about their children's prior knowledge and skills, to help plan more precisely for children's learning from the start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaging with children in a range of activities and assessed the impact this has on their learning.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and discussed the systems for planning children's play experiences.
- The inspector and childminder evaluated an activity and discussed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed a range of policies, including safeguarding procedures. She also checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other household members and the childminder's qualifications and training.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of potential signs and symptoms of abuse. She is confident of the procedures to follow, including how to contact the relevant agencies. Risk assessments are robust and all areas of the childminder's home are safe and secure. The childminder regularly meets with other childminders to share ideas and information. She attends mandatory training. Overall, this has helped her to make ongoing improvements and develop her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have a reasonable range of easily accessible toys and resources they can choose to play with. The childminder knows the interests of individual children and weaves new learning into their play. For example, she uses a range of mathematical language, such as big and little, as children play with dinosaurs. Children learn to say numbers in order and count as they build small towers with bricks. They select books to share with the childminder and dance to the music when the buttons they push play a tune. The childminder extends children's vocabulary as they describe the dinosaurs in the book and talk about volcanos. Children enjoy imaginative play as they pretend to be doctors, getting out a toy stethoscope to check their breathing and administering medicine and plasters. The childminder converses with the children throughout, asking questions to ascertain their understanding and increase their knowledge.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder spends time getting to know children and their families during the settling-in period and invites them in for several stay-and-play sessions. Information gathered about children's routines and care enables the childminder to support their individual needs. The childminder actively encourages children to try things for themselves. For example, they persevere in putting their shoes on for outdoor play. Children bring their own meals and snacks. The childminder supports healthy lifestyles and works with parents to ensure children eat healthily. Children benefit from regular exercise during a wide range of outings in the local community. They visit local parks and soft-play areas where they develop their physical skills and mix with other children. At the local nature reserve children observe wildlife, such as voles and rabbits.

Outcomes for children are good

Young children demonstrate good levels of concentration during self-chosen activities. They enjoy drawing and talking about the marks they have made. Children carry out independent tasks, such as setting the table for snack, getting their own drinks and tidying away toys after use. They are sociable and enjoy engaging with visitors as they offer pretend cups of tea in their imaginative play. Children make good progress in their learning and development from their starting points. They are acquiring some of the key skills in readiness for their future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396180
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1093962
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 June 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Cannock, Staffordshire. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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