

Childminder report

Inspection date	15 August 2018
Previous inspection date	6 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The childminder has developed strong partnerships with parents. She works closely with them to support children's learning at home and in the setting. For example, she takes time to get to know children and their families when they first start, to provide a smooth transition and successfully support their emotional security.
- The childminder knows children's individual needs well. She monitors their progress closely and uses assessment information to identify how she can help children to achieve the next steps in their learning. Children progress well and are well prepared for school.
- The childminder is friendly and nurturing. Children form close bonds with her and enjoy being in her care.
- The childminder is skilled in helping young children to gain confidence in their own abilities and to develop good levels of independence. Children are keen to complete everyday tasks for themselves, such as dressing. They gain an awareness of their personal needs and communicate these clearly and confidently.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully consider the needs of the youngest children during some planned activities, to maximise the level of their participation.
- At times, the childminder limits the opportunities for children to explore their creative ideas more.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- identify how to adapt activities to maximise the level of engagement and participation for the youngest children, to help them to make the best possible progress
- increase opportunities for children to explore their creative ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection and carried out a joint evaluation of the teaching and learning with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the childminder's home used by children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as policies and children's records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views.

Inspector

Anne Clift

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. She updates her knowledge regularly and has a clear understanding of the process to follow should she need to report any concerns about a child's well-being. She makes thorough risk assessments of her home and garden to ensure that children are safe. The childminder is committed to improving her professional skills and those of her assistant. For example, she completes training to improve her practice further. Recent training helped her to understand in greater depth how to support children who experience language delay. She ensures that her assistant is clear about his role and responsibilities. The childminder values the views of parents and children when reviewing the service that she provides. Parents are positive about the care their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is skilled in helping children to develop their communication and language. For example, she introduces new words as children play and plans activities, such as blowing games, to support the development of their mouth muscles. Children engage happily in conversations, ask questions and share ideas with friends. The childminder provides good opportunities to complement the learning that older children experience at school and they enjoy reading to friends. She plans exciting activities that capture children's interest and help them to develop their understanding of the world. Children excitedly help to prepare a home for chicks that are due to arrive and read books about them to gain a deeper understanding. They learn what they will need to care for them successfully.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children to gain an awareness of the lives of people beyond their immediate experiences. Children confidently talk about the different foods they enjoy eating at home and share experiences of their family celebrations. The childminder helps children to develop their understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children learn the importance of washing their hands before meals and explore healthy food choices. They behave well and show consideration for others, such as offering to help friends to tidy up. Children play together happily.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are curious and ask questions to deepen their understanding, such as 'what's that?'. They concentrate well on activities that interest them. For example, they focus as they use corks to print yellow circles. Children gain good mathematical understanding. They know which number comes next when counting and name shapes. Children benefit from a good range of activities that supports their physical development well. They enjoy balancing games, playing at the park and scrunching tissue paper.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297705
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10066002
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	6 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2004. She works Monday to Friday from 7am to 6.15pm, all year, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and works with an assistant. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two and three years.

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