

Childminder report

Inspection date	3 October 2018
Previous inspection date	13 May 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder does not consistently keep an accurate record of children's hours of attendance.
- The childminder does not consistently maintain a high level of hygiene in the upstairs bathroom.
- Processes for self-evaluation are not rigorous enough to identify the weaknesses in the setting that need to be quickly addressed.
- The childminder does not provide all parents with as much information as possible about how they can best support their child's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder makes clear and accurate assessments of children's emerging skills. Any areas of learning that children may fall behind with are quickly identified and set as a focus. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder takes the children on a range of exciting outings. For example, they visit country parks where they learn about and explore nature. They also visit soft-play centres and the local playground. These offer children a sense of adventure and the opportunity to experience challenge and manage risks for themselves.
- New children settle in very quickly. The childminder develops strong bonds with children right from the start. For example, she responds quickly and sensitively to children's needs and offers reassurance and cuddles when needed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
maintain an accurate record of each child's hours of attendance to ensure the safe and efficient management of the setting	17/10/2018
make sure a good standard of hygiene is maintained in the upstairs bathroom at all times to prevent any possible risk of cross-contamination.	17/10/2018

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

- improve the self-evaluation procedures so that all weaknesses are identified and swiftly addressed
- increase the information provided to parents about how they can support their child's learning at home so that children make the best possible progress.

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 interacted with and spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder's self-evaluation processes do not identify weaknesses that need to be addressed quickly. For example, the childminder does not keep an accurate record of children's hours of attendance. This makes it difficult for her to follow up accurately any concerns relating to a child's pattern of attendance. The impact on children is minimal because the childminder only cares for a small number of children. This means that the childminder is able to monitor children's attendance informally and establish who is on the premises in the event of an emergency evacuation. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder understands the procedures she should follow if she has a concern about the welfare of a child in her care. She shares information about children's progress with other settings that children may attend. However, the childminder does not provide all parents with as much information as possible to help them support their child's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder researches current guidance on the internet. This helps her to keep her teaching practice up to date. The childminder uses a wide range of teaching strategies that successfully motivates children and develops the vital skills they need for school. For example, during a painting activity the childminder models how to make hand and finger prints and to paint and print with a range of tools. During such activities, she describes what children are doing to develop their understanding of language. The childminder praises each child's attempts at making marks with the paint on their hands or on the paper. She encourages children to explore the visual changes and listen to the noises of the home-made sensory bottles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder does not make sure that the upstairs bathroom, used by children, is kept clean at all times. However, the risk to children is minimised because downstairs the childminder has stringent handwashing routines in place. The childminder provides children with nutritious and balanced light meals and snacks. She has effective strategies that promote children's positive behaviour. There is direct access to the garden. Here, children can use the sit-on toys and the slide to develop their physical skills. The childminder regularly takes the children to the local toddler group. This helps children to develop their social skills outside of the childminder's home.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are curious, explore and concentrate well. Children show great interest in books and handle them correctly. They begin to learn to operate toys with simple mechanisms. Children closely observe caterpillars in the setting as they change into chrysalises. They watch as they emerge as butterflies and then release them outdoors. They help to look after and show concern for the childminder's pet guinea pigs. Children are self-assured, happy and seek out others to share their experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY470409
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10069018
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2014

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Stafford. She operates all year round, from 7.30am until 6pm from Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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