

Childminder report

Inspection date	2 May 2019
Previous inspection date	3 October 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

This provision is good

- The childminder is passionate about her role and demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous improvement. She has made good use of training and support since the previous inspection. For example, she has joined a local childminder group and welcomes the sharing of good practice ideas. Recent 'ambitious vision' training has helped her to identify ways to enhance her provision for children. This has a positive impact on outcomes for children.
- Children form secure bonds with the childminder. They demonstrate that they feel safe and settled in her care, including on their first day. The childminder supports children to become confident in different social situations. For example, each week children go to 'create-and-play' sessions and a local farm where they meet new people, other children and their childminders. This supports children's learning about the wider community.
- Children are happy and engaged and overall, make good progress in their learning. The childminder motivates children and builds on their learning effectively through her skilful interactions. She models good language and uses lively dialogue. This increases children's engagement and supports their communication skills very well. However, the planning of activities is not meticulous enough to make sure that children have the challenge they need to make the best possible progress.
- Overall, the childminder works very closely with parents. She shares regular information with them about their children's ongoing progress. However, the childminder does not consistently gather detailed information from parents about what their children already know and can do when they first start to attend the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan activities and experiences even more meticulously to enable children to make the best possible progress
- gather more precise information from parents about their children's abilities on entry to the setting, to contribute to initial assessments of children's development.

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 in the household.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Lorraine Lawton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibility to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She considers every aspect of children's welfare and how to protect them from harm and has a comprehensive knowledge of safeguarding procedures. The childminder completes accurate assessments and monitors children's progress by closely tracking their ongoing development. The childminder is aware of seeking early intervention for children when necessary. Parents are extremely positive about the care that their children receive. They say she does so much with their children and that she plays an instrumental role in their toilet training. They cannot suggest how she can improve.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses photographic evidence to share the varied range of exciting and engaging activities that children take part in. She provides experiences and opportunities based on children's interests. She effectively encourages children to experiment and explore and learn through play. For example, when they play with 'squishy' sand, older children practise their physical skills as they mould small sandcastles. Younger children learn how to use a roller or their hands to flatten the sand. The childminder explains and shows children how to do things to help them become independent learners. They enjoy pressing buttons to make the food mixer work and to make their cars speed along the floor.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. The childminder encourages children to be kind to one another, to share and take their turn. She praises children for their efforts and achievements, which helps to support their confidence. Older children show good levels of concern and consideration for younger children. The childminder has a good understanding of how all children develop. She is particularly aware of children's fluctuating emotional and physical needs. The childminder continually responds, supports and plans for their individual needs well, such as supporting children's toilet training and reducing the use of dummies. Children have daily opportunities to enjoy fresh air and exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their next steps in learning and the move on to school. Children develop good levels of interest, enthusiasm and motivation to learn. They explore their own ideas and select and use toys and resources independently. Older children develop their understanding of mathematics when they play. They find numbers in the sand and they can identify a triangle and a square. Younger children become curious and eager learners, who are keen to join in with activities and games.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY470409
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10081687
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2018

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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