

Childminder report

Inspection date:

3 September 2019

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder has used her knowledge and experience to create a rich and inspiring environment where children thrive. Children are happy and settled and, as a result, their behaviour is exemplary. Children are highly engaged in their play and learning. They have freedom to make their own choices and to investigate the amazing outside space. For example, younger children independently fetch magnifying glasses to look closely at the herbs in the garden area. Children are confident and articulately express their thoughts and ideas with the childminder. Children have lots of fun and are eager to learn. The childminder engages children in meaningful conversations to extend their communication skills. The childminder values what the children have to say and gives enough time for them to think and respond to questions. The childminder knows the children extremely well. She takes into consideration their interests when planning enjoyable activities to further enhance their next stage of learning. Younger children develop coordination and curiosity as they safely explore. They practise their imagination skills in the stimulating role-play areas. The childminder builds exceptionally supportive and friendly relationships with parents. She consistently keeps parents up to date and involves them in all phases of their children's learning and care.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The stimulating environment gives children a selection of valuable learning experiences, which motivate them to be independent learners. The childminder enhances their problem-solving skills through a range of fun and challenging activities. For example, all children show great interest in adding different weights to the scales to try and make them level.
- The childminder takes every opportunity to skilfully extend activities and conversations to challenge children's thinking. As a result, children are confident in their abilities and eager to try new experiences. Children display high levels of social skills and are considerate towards others. The childminder acts as an excellent role model and praises children for their achievements and positive behaviour.
- Respect for others is fully embedded into the childminder's practice. Children learn about different cultures and what it would be like to be a child from another country. For example, older children chat about countries they have been to on holiday. They talk about the differences and similarities of the children who live there.
- The childminder is highly committed and passionate in maintaining her excellent practice. She reviews and reflects on how the training she completes impacts on her practice. She meets with other childminders to share ideas and to enhance her knowledge.
- The childminder carries out in-depth observations of what the children are

capable of doing. She carefully plans activities to target specific areas of their learning and development. The childminder's high expectations of the children means they take part in challenging and enjoyable activities. For example, younger children have lots of fun practising their coordination as they fish for ducks in the water tray.

- The childminder takes children on regular outings within the community. They thoroughly enjoy visiting the local playgroup. Children enjoy talking and sharing ideas with others, which further supports their self-esteem and confidence in new social situations.
- Parents hold the childminder in high regard. They say the childminder has given their children endless opportunities to develop their learning, as well as their life skills. Children have a clear love of books. They share stories with each other and the childminder. The childminder encourages parents to extend their child's learning. For example, the childminder prepares home packs with storybooks and props for children to take home.
- Children practise their physical skills as they expertly navigate their way to the top of the small climbing wall. They excitedly experiment in different ways to travel down the slide. Younger children happily push the pushchairs and sit on the tricycles and ride around the outside area. Children confidently assess risks and test out their physical abilities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps up to date with all safeguarding training and, as a result, has excellent and informative knowledge. She has a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms which could indicate a child is at risk. She knows what procedures to follow to protect children from harm. The childminder has comprehensive safeguarding procedures and policies in place. She has a broad understanding of wider safeguarding concerns and how to identify and report any concerns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224480
Local authority	Stoke-on-Trent
Inspection number	10115945
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 10
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	20 September 2013

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1993. She lives in Stoke-on-Trent. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Hulme

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas used by the children.
- At appropriate times during the inspection the inspector spoke with the childminder and the children.
- The inspector and the childminder observed individual children during an activity and discussed their learning and progress.
- The inspector checked documentation showing how the childminder works in partnership with parents.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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