

Childminder report

Inspection date:

1 November 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

Children settle remarkably well in the safe and homely environment provided by the dedicated childminder. Children and parents are greeted warmly and welcomed into her home. Children are making rapid progress from their starting points. They are highly motivated to learn and eagerly join in with activities. Children enjoy following their interests and natural curiosity as they initiate their own play. For example, they become engrossed in emptying and filling containers with pasta and rice, helping them to develop their understanding of capacity. Children are extremely happy and comfortable. They chat with each other and play harmoniously for long periods of time. Their behaviour is exemplary. Children are kind, considerate and polite to each other and the childminder. They respond exceptionally well to directions and take great pride in helping others. Children have formed close bonds with the childminder. They show genuine warmth and fondness and ask her for 'huggy hugs'. Children have wonderful opportunities to practise and develop their physical skills outside. They skilfully ride on the tricycles and excitedly run around the garden holding windmills and making them spin in the wind. Children articulately express their thoughts and ideas. They enjoy regular outings and talk enthusiastically about their experiences and what they have learned.

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

- The childminder makes exceptional use of local amenities and places of interest to enhance children's understanding of the world. They visit the supermarket to buy fruits and vegetables and to understand where their food comes from. Children learn to appreciate and celebrate different cultures and religions through rich and interesting activities. For example, children enthusiastically talk about the different foods they have tasted from other countries.
- Children develop excellent self-care skills as they independently carry out small tasks for themselves, such as pouring their own drinks at mealtimes and putting on their own shoes to play outside. The childminder gives lots of praise and encouragement and, as a result, children are highly driven. They show a wonderful can-do attitude if they encounter difficulties and are self-assured in their approach to new experiences.
- The professional and experienced childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn and develop. She plans a wealth of enjoyable activities that capture the children's imagination and enthusiasm to learn. For example, children have lots of fun making musical shakers. They experiment with the different sounds they make as they march up and down to 'The grand old duke of York'.
- The childminder provides excellent opportunities for children to learn about healthy eating. Children enjoy healthy snacks and nutritious home-cooked

meals. The childminder eats with the children at the table and engages them in meaningful discussions. As a result, children learn new vocabulary and develop excellent narrative and conversation skills.

- Parents hold the childminder in high regard. They say their children are thriving and they feel extremely lucky that the children have her as their childminder. The childminder communicates effectively with the parents. She has built friendly and trusting relationships and keeps them up to date on all aspects of their children's learning and the care they receive. She works in partnership with parents to swiftly close any gaps in children's learning and development.
- The childminder provides a wealth of opportunities for children to develop an interest in the natural world. For example, they look for different birds in the garden and feed and care for the guinea pigs. The childminder expertly weaves her teaching into the children's play. She extends their learning through her expert guidance and questions that stimulate children's critical thinking. For example, she asks the children to think and solve how to fit the long spaghetti into the small bottle.
- Children delight in the excitement of singing and dancing to their favourite songs with the energetic childminder. They calm quickly and snuggle up with the childminder for story time. The childminder has high expectations of what children can achieve. She places a high priority on their well-being and learning. The childminder is an excellent role model who treats every child with love and respect.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of neglect or abuse. She has a robust knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, including being drawn into extreme situations and staying safe on the internet. The childminder has a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of safeguarding protocols and actions to take if there are any concerns about a child's welfare. The environment is safe and secure. The childminder conducts thorough risk assessments of her home and any outings that children take part in.

Setting details

Unique reference number	209570
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10115917
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Leek, Staffordshire. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder has a foundation degree in early years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Hulme

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the learning environments where children play and viewed all areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed a focused activity and evaluated the quality of teaching with the childminder.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children.
- At appropriate times during the inspection, the inspector spoke with the childminder and the children.
- The views of parents who provided written testimonials were taken into account.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about the different experiences and learning opportunities she provides for the children.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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