

Childminder report

Inspection date:

25 February 2020

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 is dedicated and offers children top-quality teaching. She has high expectations of children and strives to provide the very best for them so they get the best possible start in their learning. Children thrive and flourish and are confident in the care of the nurturing childminder. The childminder is sensitive to children's individual care needs and knows immediately when younger children are tired or hungry. Children behave exceptionally well for their ages and are offered consistent praise for their achievements. They have a positive attitude to learning and demonstrate very high levels of concentration. The childminder promotes positive relationships and interactions.

Children freely explore the excellent resources and toys and make independent choices in their play. They are very confident, eager and enthusiastic in their learning and settle very quickly. The childminder creates an innovative range of opportunities for children to learn through sensory experiences. They enjoy messy play activities that are innovative and provide heightened opportunities to develop their senses. Children explore jelly with plastic farm animals and fresh herbs. Babies are fascinated as they learn how to use tools to scoop and squash the jelly, which helps them develop excellent physical skills. Younger children develop a very good awareness of how to use mathematics in their play and to enjoy interesting challenges.

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

- The experienced childminder continually builds on her knowledge and skills through frequent and targeted training and a variety of professional development opportunities. She networks with other childminders and works closely with the local authority to achieve excellence in all that she does. She researches a variety of subjects and new legislation so that she is highly knowledgeable and extremely well informed to provide extensive support for children's individual needs.
- Children play in a relaxed and stimulating atmosphere. The childminder provides them with time and space to explore the activities they prefer, giving them high levels of satisfaction in their discoveries. This is highly effective in helping children to be curious and to develop a positive attitude to have a go and try new things. The childminder ensures that children have continually stimulating opportunities for learning. For example, babies slot small pegs and blocks into a home-made shape sorter, giving them highly challenging opportunities to develop their problem-solving skills.
- The childminder provides remarkable support for children's speech and language development and promotes a delightful learning environment. She expertly uses her conversational skills to promote children's thinking and listening skills so that

children develop excellent communication skills. Babies generously communicate with their smiles and gestures, and they eagerly repeat and remember words modelled for them by the childminder. They are eager to move their bodies to the rhythm of a song and experiment with words that sound similar. Children have excellent access to a wonderful range of books. The childminder ensures children's continued fascination with reading material. She adapts books by providing added lift-up flaps to further fascinate children and inspire their curiosity.

- Children enjoy an enhanced curriculum, with superb opportunities to help develop their awareness of the world around them. They learn about the names and habitats of animals and garden birds. Children enjoy wide-ranging outings to museums, parks, a cathedral, the library and local restaurants. They have frequent opportunities to socialise with other children. The childminder organises an impressive outdoor environment to enable children to extend their learning outdoors. Older children particularly like spending time in the tree house in the summer months.
- The childminder establishes excellent partnerships with parents. She keeps parents very well informed about their children's progress and shares many photographs with them that capture children engrossed in stimulating activities that they enjoy. Parents especially appreciate the extensive and highly stimulating variety of activities the childminder provides, and how happy and settled their children are in her care.
- The childminder provides superb support for children's healthy lifestyles. She promotes children's understanding of the importance of making healthy food choices. She provides a varied menu that encourages children to be ambitious in their tastes. The extensive range of outings, challenging play opportunities in her garden and frequent visits to the local park provide excellent opportunities for children of all ages to enjoy physical exercise and develop excellent physical skills.
- The childminder carries out extremely accurate and detailed observations and assessments of children's learning. She uses these to swiftly identify gaps in children's learning and plan a highly effective curriculum to enhance children's learning experiences so that they make excellent progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder confidently understands her responsibilities to help keep children safe and has robust safeguarding and child protection knowledge. She actively participates in regular training to keep her safeguarding knowledge up to date. She ensures she has a strong understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and is aware of changes to legislation and practices. The childminder also has a very clear understanding of radical and extreme views or behaviours and knows how to identify and report any concerns. The childminder completes highly comprehensive daily risk assessments to ensure activities are safe and to minimise the risk of harm to children within her setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY422046
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10116178
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	11
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Lichfield, Staffordshire. The childminding provision operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector and the childminder jointly evaluated the quality of teaching during a planned activity.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of household members and the qualifications of the childminder.
- Parents recorded their views in writing and these were taken into account by the inspector.

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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