

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children share wonderful relationships with this warm and caring childminder. Their interactions together are a joy to watch. Children eagerly recall the story of 'Red Riding Hood', describing the characters and what happens to them in the story. Toddlers join in by going to get another traditional tale with a wolf in it, demonstrating their developing knowledge of books and the story characters. The childminder provides a stimulating environment inside and outdoors, with easily accessible resources for children. Young children enjoy playing in the sand and trickling it through their fingers. The childminder shows them how to make sandcastles using shape moulds. Older children confidently count the shapes they have made in the sand and are beginning to be able to name the shapes. Children behave well and learn to share and take turns. Older children enjoy playing a game with the childminder. They explain to the childminder how the tree needs to be put together and then take it in turn to carefully balance monkeys on the branches of the tree. This requires patience, coordination and the ability to hold the monkey carefully with their fingers to manoeuvre it onto the branch. Children demonstrate resilience when the tree falls, and they have to start again. With each new game, children think about different strategies to adopt in order to get as many monkeys as possible onto the branches. Children learn key skills ready for their next stage in learning. They are continually developing their knowledge and skills through games, stories and a wealth of other activities in the childminder's home and at toddler groups.

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

- The childminder helps children to learn about healthy lifestyles. She provides a good range of healthy and nutritious meals. Children enjoy playing outside in the well-equipped garden and enthusiastically develop their physical skills using the play equipment. Following recent training, the childminder has provided more mark-making tools outside to help support young children's early mark making.
- The childminder reflects on the overall quality of her service and gathers the views of parents through questionnaires. However, current systems are not yet accurate enough to enable the childminder to target areas of her provision to develop and make continuous improvements.
- Children enjoy fun activities which help them to develop their communication and language skills. They enjoy opening a series of boxes to find photographs of activities they have done with the childminder since they first started. It enables the children to recall past events and look at how they have changed over time. Toddlers develop their vocabulary as they repeat the names of familiar people and places.
- Partnerships with parents are good. There is regular sharing of information verbally, using daily diaries and by looking through children's folders containing

observations the childminder has made. Parents describe the childminder's 'passion and commitment to providing the best for each individual child'. They say that she provides genuine care and has developed their children's confidence and social skills.

- The childminder plans a wide range of activities for the children to develop their individual needs. She has a good understanding of what children know and can do from the start. However, children's next steps in learning are not always precise enough to enable the childminder to focus teaching opportunities as sharply as possible.
- Children have opportunities during regular outings, when they attend local playgroups, to mix with other children and adults. This helps them to develop their social skills and appreciate the diverse community that they belong to.
- The childminder takes children on trips to further develop their knowledge of the world. For example, they enjoy visits to a wildlife park, gardens and theme parks. Children are taken to attend events at the local school, enabling them to become familiar with the school building and staff. This helps to prepare them for their future move to school.
- The childminder completes all mandatory training, such as paediatric first aid and safeguarding. She completes training courses online and engages with other childminders to share ideas and keep up to date with current events. This helps the childminder to keep improving her knowledge and skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date by completing regular training. She can confidently identify the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is being abused and is aware of wider safeguarding issues. The childminder understands the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about the welfare of a child. Safety checks on the house are regularly carried out to help ensure that children play and learn in a safe environment. The childminder teaches the children the importance of sweeping up the sand on the floor to minimise any risk of slipping.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus more precisely on children's next steps in learning, to help them to make the best possible progress
- further develop processes for self-evaluation as part of the ongoing drive for continuous improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430866
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10066028
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Endon, Staffordshire. She operates all year round from 7.20am to 6pm between Tuesday and Thursday. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities provided and the interactions between the childminder and children, and assessed the impact of these on children's enjoyment and levels of engagement.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed documentation, including children's attendance records, children's personal details, the childminder's qualifications and suitability records of the childminder and her household members.
- The inspector took into consideration the written comments of 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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