

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive and flourish in this exceptional setting. The knowledgeable childminder and her co-minder carefully tailor the environment and activities, to inspire children's curiosity and promote independence from an early age. On arrival children find their pegs and hang their own coats. They place their own 'picnics' from home in the outdoor fridge and are welcomed into an environment designed to meet their every need. Children enjoy a healthy snack of strawberries, and even very young children relish the opportunity to use specially designed, serrated knives to cut their own strawberries. All children demonstrate high levels of concentration as they persevere cutting their own fruit. Lots of noises, indicating their pleasure of enjoying the ripe and juicy fruit, is heard.

Children practise their developing physical skills as they enjoy yoga sessions in line with their interests, for example, 'dinosaur yoga'. Young children pull themselves up using furniture and resources, which have been provided to support them to learn skills to help them walk. Children settle exceptionally well. The childminder and her co-minder provide lots of reassurance, praise and cuddles. Their deep love and affection for the children shines through, and consequently, children feel extremely safe and secure.

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

- The childminder and co-minder have an outstanding knowledge of the early years and how children learn. They use this knowledge alongside their in-depth understanding of each child's likes and dislikes, to ensure an ambitious curriculum, which provides superb support for all children, is in place. A large selection of resources is used to extend and embed existing knowledge or to provide new experiences. For example, during the summer months, all children have access to a heated swimming pool. Children are supported in gaining confidence in water safely. Older children especially like to dive under the water for sinkers.
- Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is marvellous. The childminder and her co-minder ensure all children receive the very best early years education appropriate to their level of development and needs. They complete research and training, which enable them to provide speech therapy to help children who may need extra support. Equality and diversity are interweaved throughout their practice. They ensure children understand everyone is equal. There is a wide range of resources, such as toys and books, which promote diversity, so every child feels valued.
- A superb emphasis on communication and language and literacy is promoted within the curriculum. Children delight in pulling soft toys, which depict different nursery rhymes, out of a bag. The childminder and her co-minder sing the songs

with the children as they join in with the actions. The very youngest children babble along, bounce up and down and jiggle. Children can borrow books from the childminder's library to take home. This further supports them to continue their love of reading.

- Excellent relationships with local schools and other settings ensure that children are exceptionally well supported. Meetings are held with the school before children transition, and summaries of children's progress are shared. This ensures accurate information is given to the school to further support the children in their learning.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder and her co-minder. Written feedback demonstrates how much respect and admiration parents have for the care their children receive. They write it is 'such a wonderful, safe, loving and fun environment'. The childminder and her co-minder help parents to support their child's learning even further at home. They provide amazing monthly activity sheets, giving parents ideas of activities they can do to support their children's development and learning at home.
- The childminder and her co-minder gather lots of information about children when they start. They complete meticulous planning, using a monthly activity plan to provide a wide range of activities designed in line with children's interests. They regularly review and evaluate their practice to ensure children receive the very best care. Consequently, all children make good or outstanding progress in their learning.
- Children are developing a delightful interest in the world around them. Lots of activities are provided outdoors. Children go on lots of trips to the park, arboretum, and other places of interest.
- Children gain a deep understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy. Since COVID-19 pandemic, a sink has been installed outdoors so children can wash the germs away before entering the premises. It's used for outdoor play as well. Children who sleep are wrapped up warmly and sleep outdoors, under cover in the fresh air. All children, including the youngest children are given flannels and encouraged to wipe their own hands and face after eating.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent and extremely in-depth knowledge and understanding of safeguarding. She is a member of several groups and attends webinars and training to ensure her knowledge is kept up to date. As children attend the setting from different local authorities the childminder ensures she knows the procedures to follow for both local authorities, if she has concerns about children in her care. She knows what action she needs to take and who to report concerns to. The childminder ensures all areas of her home and garden are safe for children to use.

Setting details

Unique reference number	210459
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10234338
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	0 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	27
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Tutbury, Staffordshire. She works with another registered childminder, and they operate all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Johanna Holt

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared written views of the setting which the inspector reviewed.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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