

Childminder report

Inspection date:

26 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Good

Leadership and management

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The experienced childminder warmly welcomes children into her inviting home. Children are relaxed and comfortable in her care and confidently explore their surroundings. Children enjoy an effective balance of adult-led and child-initiated learning opportunities. As a result, they make good progress during their time with the childminder. Children develop strong attachments with the childminder. They receive lots of cuddles, sensitive reassurance and high levels of individual attention. This helps them to feel safe and secure in her care. Children display positive behaviour. They show good levels of involvement and concentration, and follow the clear instructions given by the childminder. Children have exciting opportunities to develop their physical skills and learn about nature and the natural world. They have lots of fun taking part in woodland walks, climbing trees, collecting sticks and looking for birds. They learn how to keep themselves safe and how to cross the road. Children have opportunities to mark make which helps to support their early writing skills. Children clap proudly at their achievements and welcome the abundance of praise they receive from the childminder. This helps children to feel valued and to raise their self-esteem.

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

- The childminder observes children as they play to identify what they know, understand and can do. She uses this information alongside discussions with parents to inform her of what children need to learn next. However, strategies to assess and track children's progress do not consistently detect gaps in learning to better inform teaching and achieve even higher developmental outcomes.
- Children are supported to develop an awareness of the world around them. They take part in daily outings within the local community. For example, they have lots of fun visiting the library and toddler group. These experiences help children to build their social skills and encourage them to develop wider relationships.
- The childminder provides children with a range of enjoyable experiences that support their understanding of different countries, cultures and celebrations. For example, children have fun using chopsticks and making masks when they learn about Chinese New Year.
- Children are supported well to develop a love of books. They enjoy singing popular nursery rhymes and freely express themselves as they move to the music. Children experiment with musical instruments and practise their hand-to-eye coordination as they hit and tap on a drum.
- Children have opportunities to act out real-life experiences. For example, they pretend to carefully feed dolls with a bottle and put them into a pushchair. Children show an interest in early technology as they use age-appropriate cause-and-effect toys.
- The childminder regularly meets with other childminders in the area to share

ideas and good practice. She researches key information and reads widely to help extend her professional development. However, she does not swiftly identify areas of training that focus sufficiently on raising the overall quality of teaching to an even higher level.

- The childminder acts as an excellent role model to the children. She speaks calmly and respectfully to the children. She asks a range of open-ended questions and engages children in meaningful conversations. She regularly introduces new words as children play. This helps children to develop their communication and language skills.
- The childminder establishes positive relationships with parents. She finds out children's needs and abilities before they start. This helps the childminder to provide continuity in their care and learning.
- The childminder shares a range of information with the parents on the care their children have received during the session. She keeps them informed on their child's progress and encourages parents to extend their child's learning at home. Parents speak highly of the childminder. They say she is 'warm and friendly' and they could not have asked for a better childminder for their children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder displays an excellent understanding of her responsibilities to protect children's well-being. She has a robust knowledge of the possible signs and symptoms that could indicate a child is at risk of abuse and neglect. She has comprehensive policies and protocols in place and understands procedures to follow if she has any concerns over a child's welfare. The childminder has a clear understanding of wider safeguarding concerns, including children being drawn into extreme situations. The childminder is qualified in paediatric first aid. She carries out risk assessments of her home and when taking children on outings to ensure children's safety at all times.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- refine strategies to assess and track children's progress to effectively identify gaps in their learning, to achieve even higher outcomes for children
- develop the use of self-evaluation to identify a more targeted plan for professional development to increase knowledge and teaching to the highest level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	210090
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10115927
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 17
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1994. She lives in the Kidsgrove area of Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. The childminding provision operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Hulme

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- The quality of teaching and the impact on children's learning was observed and evaluated by the inspector.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written testimonials.

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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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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