

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 August 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children settle well and develop secure relationships with the calm, caring childminder, and with their friends. Babies look to her for reassurance and cuddles as they play alongside older children. The childminder organises her home and the routine so that children can enjoy their interests. Children have plenty of time and opportunity to play and develop friendships. Opportunities for fresh air and exercise are frequent throughout the day because there is easy access to the large garden. Children develop their independence as they put on their shoes before going outside and pour themselves a drink of water.

Children make good progress across all areas of learning. They benefit from sensory activities that motivate and interest them. For example, babies notice how the foil makes a rustling sound when they put their feet on it. They gaze and smile at their reflection in a large, shiny metal sphere. The childminder quickly acknowledges this as she asks 'Is it shiny? Can you see yourself there?'

Children's mathematical development is supported well because they hear mathematical language as they play. The childminder expertly comments on the size and shape of items as children use them. She counts with children and talks about quantities and shape. For example, she introduces 'half' and 'semi-circle' as children notice the features of some wooden shapes.

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

- The childminder understands child development and knows how young children learn best. She uses this knowledge and understanding to good effect as she skilfully observes children's interests as they play. Furthermore, she adapts activities and the environment very well to support all children. For example, babies pat the water to make splashes in a low water tray. Older children pour water down funnels and pipes, and fill various containers at the water play station.
- The childminder engages with children calmly and easily as they play. She shows care and attention as children make choices from a wide range of exciting activities. As a result, children are motivated and interested to learn. The childminder offers challenge and uses open questions to extend children's learning. She introduces fascinating resources alongside favourite activities. This helps to extend children's experiences and learning.
- The childminder has clear boundaries, and simple rules are enforced sensitively and with kindness. As a result, children behave very well and have excellent manners. They listen to each other and share toys and resources. For example, older children notice when their friends do not have a small silver pan to 'cook' their food in while in the play kitchen area. They quickly decide to give them

their pan to share and take turns with.

- Children benefit from exciting and interesting outings in the local area and further away. This helps them to explore their world. For example, the childminder takes the children for local nature walks and they often visit parks, libraries and attractions in the area. As a result, children's understanding of the world and of the local community is enhanced. They develop some knowledge of other cultures as they engage in activities planned by the childminder. However, children do not see enough positive images of the diverse world around them as they play.
- Children's communication and language development are given close attention. The childminder is involved with children's play activities and holds conversations with them. She repeats familiar words so that babies hear them often. She introduces new words to older children as they play. This helps to broaden children's vocabulary.
- Children develop a love of books and reading. They enjoy reading stories together with the childminder. For example, when the childminder reads 'The Gruffalo' story, children hold Gruffalo toys as they listen. They confidently retell some familiar sections. The childminder skilfully offers reminders so that children have a go at recalling what happens next. Babies are fully included and listen carefully as they cuddle alongside the childminder.
- Parents say that they are very happy with the care and education that their children receive. They appreciate the attention that the childminder gives their children. They comment that their children are happy and settled. The childminder shares information with parents on a daily basis. She uses other ways to communicate effectively, such as telephone messages and regular newsletters.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder confidently described what she would do if she had a safeguarding concern about any of the children in her care. She accesses a wide range of safeguarding training regularly. This helps her to know about wider safeguarding concerns and local referral procedures. She has a secure understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She understands the risks to children from extreme behaviour and radicalisation. The childminder completes risk assessments to help her highlight and address any safety issues. In addition, she holds an appropriate paediatric first-aid qualification. This helps to ensure children's safety while in her care.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more opportunities for children to see positive images of the diverse world around them as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2638404
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10301717
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2021 and lives in Burntwood, Staffordshire. She offers care from Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 6pm. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Juliette Freeman

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 setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with children.
- The childminder spoke with the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- The views of parents were gathered through written feedback and taken into consideration by the inspector.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder regularly during the inspection.
- The childminder showed the inspector documents, including paediatric first-aid certificates and suitability checks.

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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