

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 March 2016

Previous inspection date

5 December 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is extremely well organised. She is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence. She is an active member of the childminding network and has been proactive in ensuring that her provision and knowledge has continued to develop since her last inspection. This ensures that she has the latest thinking on learning and development issues, along with subjects, such as safeguarding.
- The childminder forms strong links with parents. She takes time to gather their views about their child's progress and develops children's next steps in learning in partnership with them. This ensures all adults work together to sustain children's excellent progress.
- The childminder has a superb understanding of children's abilities. She uses this knowledge to provide activities which are precisely targeted to build on what children can do. Children are exceptionally well challenged. The childminder develops children's thinking skills at every opportunity, developing confident and inquisitive learners who enjoy investigating and experimenting.
- The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder has a deep understanding of how children learn through play and exploration and does not underestimate what children can achieve. The inspiring range of activities provided ensures children are extremely motivated to engage and fully supported to achieve at the highest level.
- The warm relationship between the childminder and the children is a key strength. Children thrive in the homely atmosphere. The childminder shows children that learning is fun and demonstrates that it is safe to give new things a try. Children are keen to engage in all the rich learning opportunities that are provided.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for younger children to assess risk and further develop their already good understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and a selection of policies and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the provider's own parental survey results.

Inspector

Sarah Rhodes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder fully complies with all aspects of legislation. Her methodical approach means she fully supports children's learning and welfare needs. The childminder demonstrates an impressive commitment to developing her skills. She has obtained an early years qualification and regularly attends training and briefing sessions. For example, she attended the, 'Stoke speaks out' training and has used this to enhance her teaching of communication and language skills. The childminder has used the training to evaluate her interactions with children, fully acknowledging that, 'The best toy a child can have is you'. Her attention to honing her teaching skills has been highly significant in maintaining children's rapid progress. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children's safety is of paramount importance. The childminder fully understands safeguarding issues and uses thorough risk assessments to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder completes excellent assessments of children's abilities which encourage their rapid progress. Activities are precisely targeted to extend children's skills and quickly close any gaps in development. Children's speaking and listening skills develop extremely well. The childminder takes time to listen to children and develops their vocabulary as conversations evolve during play. Children start to make connections between letter sounds and written words. The childminder enthusiastically shows children how they can use materials, such as cornflour and water in their play, expertly promoting children's confidence and curiosity. Learning is made fun, and young children echo the positivity of the childminder, showing pride in their achievements. The childminder uses every opportunity to reinforce mathematical language, actively planning activities which reinforce understanding of number, colour, size and positional language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder provides genuine warmth and affection which successfully enhances children's confidence and self-esteem. Children flourish as they feel valued. Children adopt a healthy lifestyle as they enjoy the fresh air and challenge themselves physically. They grow vegetables and help to prepare meals, developing an excellent awareness of healthy eating. Older children learn to manage risks. They learn about road safety and understand what to do in the event of a fire. The childminder is now exploring ways to further extend younger children's understanding of how to stay safe. The childminder skilfully guides children's behaviour so they learn to share toys and consider the needs of others. They demonstrate a mature understanding of how to behave, taking responsibility for their own actions and using excellent manners.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make rapid progress from their starting points. They consistently demonstrate high levels of motivation and a thirst for learning. They are very well prepared for the move on to school, demonstrating high levels of independence and mature interpersonal skills. Children count confidently, learn to write their own names and show perseverance as they tackle new activities and problem solve in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY276492
Local authority	Stoke on Trent
Inspection number	848615
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 December 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. She operates all year round from 6am to 10pm, seven days a week. She cares for children overnight if necessary. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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