

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 October 2019

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely happy and settled in the welcoming environment provided by the experienced and professional childminder. They are making excellent progress in their learning from their starting points. Children are highly motivated and eagerly join in with rich and exciting activities. They enjoy following their interests and initiating their own play. Children freely choose from a wide range of stimulating resources which promote their learning and development. For example, they practice their hand-to-eye coordination as they build a tower out of different-shaped blocks, sorting and matching the shapes. Children are consistently encouraged to share, take turns and be respectful towards others. As a result, their behaviour is excellent. Children display strong attachments to the attentive and nurturing childminder. She offers them an abundance of appropriate praise and encouragement. Consequently, children display high levels of self-esteem and confidence in their abilities. Children have excellent opportunities to explore music and sound. They sing and dance to the 'hokey kokey' and excitedly tap rolling pins together, experimenting with the different sounds they make. The childminder encourages children to do things for themselves and, as a result, they develop excellent independence skills.

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

- The childminder has high expectations for all children. She has extensive knowledge and experience which helps to ensure children receive excellent quality of care. The childminder is highly skilled at evaluating her practice. She consistently identifies any areas to further enhance her already exemplary practice. She attends regular training and makes excellent use of any new knowledge gained.
- Children benefit from imaginative and exciting activities which the childminder plans with their interests in mind. As a result, children become engrossed and eager to learn. The childminder knows the children extremely well. She swiftly identifies opportunities to further develop their learning and skilfully incorporates them into her high-quality teaching.
- The childminder provides children with enjoyable and extensive opportunities to learn about the world around them. For example, they ride on the local bus and visit parks, the seaside and the library, where they listen to interactive storytelling. Children learn about different cultures and faiths beyond their own family and community through varied and imaginative activities.
- Parents hold the childminder in high regard. They say their children have 'flourished' and are happy and settled in the safe and homely environment. Parents say the childminder communicates extremely well with them. She shares a wealth of information and ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.

- The childminder listens attentively to what the children have to say. She skilfully extends their vocabulary by introducing new words and encourages the children to repeat them. Parents say that their children's early talking skills have rapidly progressed through the childminder's attentive and nurturing manner.
- The childminder provides a vast range of resources and opportunities for children to practise their physical skills in the fresh air. Children display high levels of curiosity and imagination as they play in the creatively arranged garden playhouse. They enthusiastically pretend to cook in the role-play kitchen and sweep the floor. The childminder expertly uses open-ended questions when chatting happily to the children. This encourages children to develop their own ideas and make decisions.
- Activities are well presented and resourced. For example, children make and paint hedgehogs out of dough and an exciting array of resources from conkers to uncooked spaghetti. Children experiment with different textures and take pride in their accomplishments. The childminder consistently assesses children's development and delivers gradually challenging opportunities to help them progress to the best of their abilities.
- Children are encouraged to build upon their awareness of numbers and counting skills. They learn a different colour and shape each week which the childminder expertly introduces into conversations and during play. The childminder is an excellent role model and is respectful to children at all times. Children learn quickly from her calm and positive interactions.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is committed to keeping up to date on all safeguarding training and, as a result, has extensive and informative knowledge. She has an excellent understanding of the signs and symptoms which could indicate a child is at risk of harm. The childminder knows the procedures to follow if she had any concerns about a child in order to keep them safe. She has a robust understanding of wider safeguarding concerns. Comprehensive safeguarding procedures and policies are in place, which the childminder actively follows.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY288962
Local authority	Stoke-on-Trent
Inspection number	10116067
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Stoke-on-Trent. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, 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 two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Hulme

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the learning environments where children play and viewed all areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed a focused activity and evaluated the quality of teaching with the childminder.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children.
- At appropriate times during the inspection, the inspector spoke with the childminder.
- The views of parents who spoke to the inspector and provided written testimonials were taken into account.

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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