

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 May 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder is kind and caring. Children are happy and content in her care. The childminder builds strong bonds with the children. Children demonstrate they feel safe and secure. For example, they snuggle up close to the childminder as they listen intently to her at story time. The childminder takes the children on a broad range of trips out around the community, including to toddler groups and local parks. These help children to socialise and interact with other children on a regular basis and form new friendships. The childminder helps to promote children's confidence and self-esteem. She gives children lots of praise and encouragement for their efforts and achievements. This helps to promote children's confidence and self-esteem and helps them to develop a can-do attitude. The childminder places a significant emphasis on promoting a love of books and reading in children. Her method of reading is engaging and exciting, as she encourages children to discuss the illustrations on each page.

Children develop a positive attitude towards learning and make good progress from their starting points. They are gaining the skills and attitudes they need for their next stage of learning, including their eventual move to school.

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

- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She has devised a broad well-sequenced curriculum that supports children to build on what they already know and can do. The childminder makes regular observations and assessments of children's learning. She uses this information to plan interesting and challenging activities with focused learning targets.
- The childminder is committed to providing a high-quality service. She aims to prepare children well for school and beyond. However, her plans for her professional development are not yet precisely tailored to raising the quality of her teaching skills even further.
- The experienced childminder is a good teacher. Her knowledge of how children learn and develop has a positive impact on the learning experiences she provides. Children make good progress from their individual starting points.
- The childminder provides flexible settling-in sessions for children prior to them starting with her. This helps to promote children's and parents' confidence at a time of change.
- The childminder places a high priority on children's language development. She speaks clearly and slowly and exposes children to lots of rich language. The childminder reads stories with enthusiasm and good intonation. She encourages children to copy different sounds. She sings songs and rhymes with the children. She asks questions that promote children's thinking skills. Consequently, children learn to become good communicators.

- The childminder helps children to learn about healthy lifestyles. She provides plenty of opportunities for children to be outdoors in the fresh air and to be physically active. She encourages children to drink water regularly throughout the day. Children learn good hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before eating.
- The childminder teaches children to be independent learn to dress themselves and manage their own personal care.
- The childminder helps to promote children's early mathematical skills. For example, the childminder teaches children to learn to count and recognise shapes. However, at times, children are unable to fully lead their own play or follow their current interests because toys and resources are stored out of reach and are restricted to those selected solely by the childminder.
- The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. She models good manners and offers gentle reminders when children forget. The childminder has a calm approach and clearly explains to children how to share, using age-appropriate language.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder. They comment on the good progress their children make during their time with her. Parents say their children enjoy being with the childminder. Parents comment on the good communication they receive from the childminder about their children's learning. They appreciate the support she provides to enable them to continue their children's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- implement plans for professional development to enhance practice even further
- increase opportunities for children to make their own choices and decisions when accessing toys and resources.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY317919
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10380882
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	2 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in the Codsall of South Staffordshire. She operates Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am until 5.30pm, all year round. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early years education for children aged from nine months up to four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for her early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of parents' written reviews that were provided by the childminder.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation.

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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