

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 June 2015

Previous inspection date

8 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder fosters close and trusting bonds with parents and children. This helps children to feel safe, settled and quickly reassured, as they separate confidently from their parents.
- Children visit toddler groups where they socialise with other children and adults to develop their confidence. This helps children prepare for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school.
- A progress check for all children between the ages of two and three years is comprehensively carried out by the childminder. Parents receive relevant information on their child's progress and any additional support they may need.
- The childminder is a good role model. She supports children to learn to share and take turns with toys and equipment. Children's behaviour is managed sensitively in accordance to their age and stage of development.
- The childminder effectively observes the practice of the assistants to check on and develop the existing good practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not support parents to be fully involved in their child's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help parents to share what they know about their child in relation to their ongoing learning and development, for example, engage all parents in their children's learning in the setting and at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records.
- The inspector observed children's activities indoors.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualification and the suitability of assistants and all adults in the household.

Inspector

Lesley Bott

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder makes good use of observations and assessments to track and see how well children are progressing in their learning. She finds out about children's initial stages of development from her discussions with parents when children first attend. This information is used to plan a broad range of activities, which motivate children's learning. As a result, children make good progress. However, the childminder does not fully engage all parents in their children's learning. This is because, for example, she does not encourage them to share ongoing information about their child's achievements at home. This information, therefore, cannot be taken into account when planning for children's future learning. The childminder knows children's individual interests and plans activities to engage them fully. Children are developing good language and mathematical skills. They take part in purposeful and challenging learning experiences, that help them to count and organise number patterns. The childminder is developing useful ways to encourage children to move their bodies, for example, through music and exercise programmes indoors.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

The childminder offers children excellent levels of emotional support. Children are extremely comfortable and reassured in the company of the childminder and assistants, in their new surroundings. Children form positive relationships and are very well prepared for the transfer to other provisions, such as nursery and school. The childminder responds sensitively to children's changing moods and interests. She attends instantly to younger children's needs, to minimise distress. She quickly recognises when children feel hungry and adapts planned daily menus to meet their individual needs. This ensures that children receive a balanced and healthy diet. Children have daily opportunities to be outside. They experience fresh air and exercise as they make choices in the challenging outdoor environment. Children's safety is given high priority at all times as, for example, children learn how to manage and negotiate the steps down to the childminder's garden.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good understanding of all safeguarding procedures. For example, she has a secure understanding of her role in protecting children and keeping them safe. All adults hold current first-aid qualifications to make sure they can respond appropriately to accidents. The childminder reviews her own practice and works closely with her assistants to continually improve care and learning experiences for children. The childminder is highly committed to continuous professional development. She has recently achieved an early years degree qualification, which has improved the learning experiences she offers children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY355553
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	863404
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and works with two assistants. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder also provides occasional overnight care. She has a qualification at level 6.

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