

Childminder report

Inspection date:

2 November 2023

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 provides a warm and welcoming environment for children. She knows children very well and talks in depth about children's experiences, learning and next steps. The childminder is very knowledgeable and plans a curriculum for children based on what they already know and can do, working towards small and achievable targets. Therefore, children develop important foundations for future learning. The childminder focuses on developing children's confidence, ensuring that they are happy and develop good relationships. As a result, children arrive happy and settle quickly into the childminder's care. Children are friendly and curious towards visitors. This demonstrates that they feel safe and secure with the childminder. All children make good progress from their starting points.

The childminder teaches children to become independent and to make choices. Older children make independent choices about what they would like to play with, and they use the toilet independently. Children learn the importance of washing their hands before they eat. Young children collect the step, so that they can reach the soap and handwashing sink, which promotes their independence. Older children develop their creativity as they draw pictures that are important to them. Younger children practise picking up small items with tweezers. This helps to develop their small-muscle skills in readiness for their later writing.

The childminder has a positive attitude to behaviour management. She understands that behaviour is related to children's age and stage of development and has realistic expectations. The childminder promotes positive behaviour through praise and encouragement. Children learn how to behave, keep safe and follow instructions well.

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

- The childminder takes children on a variety of interesting outings. For example, children benefit from valuable experiences, such as visiting zoos, farms, libraries, places of worship and local parks and playgrounds. Children gain a good understanding of their surroundings and benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise. This has a positive impact on their personal and physical development, and further supports their understanding of the world they are growing up in.
- Overall, the childminder plans activities that all the children can take part in together. Sometimes, she overlooks how to provide the right level of challenge for children. As a result, some children lose interest and remove themselves from the activity. This means, at times, the intended learning is not consistently achieved.
- The childminder understands the importance of developing children's communication and language. The relationship that the childminder has with the

children is delightful. However, the childminder does not ensure that all children consistently benefit from her interactions. For example, during singing actions songs, the childminder does not always position herself, so that the youngest children can benefit from her eye contact and see the actions being demonstrated by her, so that they can fully engage in the activity.

- The childminder gathers a range of information from parents, including an optional home visit, before the children start to attend. She uses this information and her own observations and assessments to help identify how she can support children to progress in their learning.
- The childminder builds strong relationships with parents. Parents contributed towards the inspection through written comments and testimonials. All are extremely positive, with parents commenting on how much their children love attending the childminder's care. The childminder ensures that parents are kept very well informed about their child's progress and supports them with ideas of how to extend their children's learning at home.
- The childminder completes some useful training, for example, on how to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This continuous professional development supports her practice. The childminder is reflective and is proactive in seeking out ways to develop her own knowledge and skills. She meets regularly with other childminders to discuss good practice and any changes to legislation.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are the utmost priority for the childminder. She uses risk assessment effectively to keep children safe from harm. The childminder has a secure understanding of her role and responsibility to keep children safe in her care. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and has procedures in place should she need to raise any concerns regarding the safety and welfare of children. She completes regular child protection training to keep her knowledge up to date.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- build on the already good teaching practice, so that children are consistently challenged to the highest level
- consider how to support children to pay attention and more effectively engage during singing and story time activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY371805
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10301748
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	1 to 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	12 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Tamworth, Staffordshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

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 provision.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents during the inspection.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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