

Childminder Report

Inspection date

10 July 2015

Previous inspection date

5 January 2012

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		Good	2
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 monitors and tracks children's progress so she can easily see the areas where children are making least progress and provide appropriate support. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Safeguarding procedures are good and the childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibilities. This ensures that children's welfare is protected and they are kept safe.
- Children form exceptional relationships with the childminder. She provides a warm and caring environment, which effectively promotes their emotional well-being.
- The childminder uses self-evaluation as a tool to continuously improve areas of her practice. She obtains the views of both parents and children to identify any weaknesses in her practice and drive ongoing improvements that benefit the children.
- The childminder understands the importance of working in partnership with parents, other providers or professionals involved in the care and learning of children.
- The childminder understands and meets the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She implements suitable policies and procedures, and ensures records are completed thoroughly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children the best opportunities to think through things for themselves.
- The childminder does not always promote children's awareness of the importance of good hygiene practices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children every opportunity to think for themselves and further reinforce confidence in their good communication skills
- help children to understand from an early age the importance of good hygiene in everyday routines.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took account of parents' comments on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed the process for self-evaluation with the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including verifying some qualifications, checking evidence of the suitability of household members and viewing the policies, procedures and the children's records.
- The inspector observed children's activities in the playroom and outdoors.

Inspector

Janet Weston

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how to promote children's all-round development. She is well qualified and overall, teaching is good. Children are provided with opportunities to practise their physical skills. This successfully engages their language skills as they squeeze and stretch the dough through shaped cutters. However, at times the childminder intervenes in children's play too quickly and provides children with the answers to her questions. This does not always allow children sufficient time for their learning and thinking skills to be fully extended. The childminder helps children to engage their concentration and reading skills. For example, she encourages children to talk about a story's characters and enact the story. This promotes children's language development through modelling correct pronunciation and encouraging them to describe the pictures. The childminder helps children develop their mathematical skills. They are encouraged to count the things they see and talk about and use numbers beyond 10. As a result, children realise that anything can be counted, including hopping across the playroom. Consequently, children develop the skills required for future learning, including their move on to school.

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

Children are happy and settled in the care of the childminder. They enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities and visits to places of interest. As a result, they learn about their local community and their physical development and well-being are met. Children explore the environment confidently and make requests about what they would like to do. Resources are attractively presented and labelled. This helps children make independent choices as they play. Children demonstrate good self-help skills. They set the table and pour their own drinks. However, children are not always best supported to understand the importance of good hygiene practices. The childminder is a good role model. Children follow her simple rules and know what is expected of them. Consequently, they behave very well and are well mannered.

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

The childminder has undertaken mandatory courses and frequently meets with other childminders to discuss practices. This has a positive impact on children's learning. The childminder monitors children's progress. She communicates with parents on a daily basis to share information about children's development and their next steps in learning. As a result, parents are aware of how they can support their children's learning at home. The childminder has implemented induction procedures for her newly appointed assistant. She encourages the assistant to shadow her practice and gives basic in-house training on her policies and procedures. This enables her assistant to have an understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430992
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	853154
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Stoke on Trent. She lives with her husband, who is her assistant. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an early years qualification at level 3.

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