

Childminder report

Inspection date	19 October 2018
Previous inspection date	10 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- The very knowledgeable and committed childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of how children learn. She regularly attends training courses and completes her own research. The childminder is continuously developing her practice to improve outcomes for children.
- The childminder is extremely thoughtful and caring. She ensures her settling-in process meets the individual needs of children and establishes very positive, warm relationships from the start. Children thrive and show how they feel emotionally secure and safe in the childminder's care.
- The childminder regularly observes children and has an excellent understanding of their abilities. She identifies children's next steps in their learning precisely and uses these to plan or enhance activities. The childminder has a clear overview of the very good progress that all children are making, such as through her meticulous monitoring systems.
- The childminder ensures she develops highly effective partnerships with parents from the outset. She gathers a wealth of extremely detailed information about what children already know and can do. Detailed information about children's learning is frequently shared between the childminder and home. This helps to provide a highly consistent approach to children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the outside area further as planned, to extend the already excellent opportunities that children have to develop their physical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's records and other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. The inspector jointly evaluated the quality of teaching with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises and the childminder's qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided. She spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is very reflective and regularly gathers the views of parents and children to help her evaluate her provision and make targeted improvements. For example, the childminder has identified the need to develop the outdoor area further. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a very thorough knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child. She applies robust policies and procedures that ensure children are cared for in a safe environment. The childminder works extremely well with other professionals. She shares detailed information with other settings that children also attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder's excellent knowledge of children's ability enables her to weave new learning skilfully into their chosen play activities. She uses highly effective questioning to help extend children's thinking skills. Children enjoy exploring the textures and sounds made by a variety of objects, such as metal and wooden curtain rings, fir cones and coconut shells. Babies develop their vocabulary as they share textured books with the childminder, who points to objects and names them. Young children skilfully use scissors to cut pieces of drinking straws to make candles for their play dough cake. The childminder extends their learning by developing their understanding of size, counting, addition and number recognition.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is highly sensitive to the needs of babies. She knows them very well and ensures she meets their individual care requirements. Children share extremely close and affectionate bonds with the childminder and each other. The childminder is an excellent role model. Children are very well behaved. They learn to be well-mannered, polite and considerate to others. The childminder is highly skilled at managing children's behaviour, and provides praise and clear explanations about what they have done well. This supports children's self-esteem and they are confident to try new skills. Children benefit from eating a variety of nutritious food and learn about healthy lifestyles. They develop their social skills and knowledge of the wider world, such as during their attendance at playgroups and visits to local attractions.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children are developing skills and knowledge that will enhance their future learning extremely well. They are making excellent progress. Children are highly focused as they play and are motivated to learn. Their literacy and mathematical skills are exceedingly developed given their ages. Young children confidently recognise their name, letters and sounds. They listen carefully and join in with stories, songs and rhymes. Children show kindness and care for babies. They take turns and share resources. Young children are highly independent. For example, they are eager to put on their own shoes and coat.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430992
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10066029
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	10 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire. She operates from 7.45am to 5pm from Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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