

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 December 2019

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	Not applicable
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The experienced childminder provides a welcoming and homely environment. She has a relaxed and nurturing manner. Children develop warm bonds with her and show that they feel safe and secure. The childminder recognises when children are tired or need a little extra support. They actively seek her out for a reassuring cuddle or to join in their games. Children have plenty of opportunities to explore different outdoor environments and meet new people in the local area. They regularly visit schools, local gardens and animal parks. This helps to broaden children's understanding of the local community and wider world.

The childminder recognises the importance of good speaking and listening skills to children's overall development. She engages children in meaningful conversations. The childminder initiates discussions and sensitively listens to children's responses. She models words and sentences clearly and adapts her language to support children's understanding. Younger children repeat familiar phrases and new words.

Children move confidently around the childminder's home, choosing from the range of interesting toys and resources. They enjoy a wide range of imaginative and stimulating experiences that support their development well. Children show a positive attitude towards their learning and they are developing into inquisitive learners. They all make good progress in their learning.

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

- The childminder obtains in-depth information from parents when children first start. She uses this information to help children to settle swiftly and to plan activities that support children's learning from the outset.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of children's learning and development. She knows the children well and understands what she needs to do to help them move on to the next stage of their learning. The childminder observes children to assess their development and incorporates their interests and next steps into planned activities. However, occasionally, the childminder misses opportunities to extend and develop children's understanding of mathematical language in their play.
- The childminder provides children with lots of opportunities to listen to stories and sing songs. Children enjoy listening to music with the childminder and are beginning to join in with the words to familiar songs. Children learn about different cultures and develop an understanding of sharing and taking turns.
- Young children are encouraged to explore and experiment. They have opportunities to develop their scissor skills. Children learn about colours and textures as they create Christmas pictures using soft pom-poms and coloured glitter to paint. This helps to inspire and develop their creativity. Children are

motivated to learn and eager to engage in activities for long periods of time.

- The childminder ensures that children are frequently physically active. For example, they play in the garden and join in with the actions to songs. The childminder encourages self-confidence and independence by providing opportunities for children to complete age-appropriate tasks for themselves. For example, they wash their hands before meals and feed themselves. The childminder recognises the importance of children becoming more independent with other self-help skills before they start nursery or school.
- Children behave well. The childminder adopts a calm and supportive approach and is a good role model. She interacts extremely well with children. Children receive lots of praise for their efforts to build on their increasing self-esteem and confidence.
- Overall, the childminder has developed good partnerships with parents. Parents are complimentary about the childminder's service. They report that children are cared for in a home-from-home environment and that their children are making good progress in her care. The childminder has daily conversations with parents. However, she does not consistently offer parents ideas or suggestions to extend their children's learning and development at home.
- The childminder regularly evaluates the quality of her provision. The views of parents are sought and considered by the childminder. She reflects on activities and adapts them to make any improvements. She attends training to gain additional knowledge and ideas. She implements what she learns through training and online research into her practice to ensure children are continually interested in activities and are inspired to learn.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good understanding of her role in safeguarding children. She recognises the possible signs and symptoms of abuse. She is aware of the correct reporting procedures to follow if she has a concern. The childminder ensures her knowledge remains up to date by attending regular safeguarding training. The childminder promotes children's safety well. For example, she ensures her home is safe and secure and closely supervises children at all times. Robust risk assessments help to minimise any potential hazards and risks to children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more consistent opportunities for children to develop and practise their mathematical skills from an early age
- consider ways to enhance partnerships with parents to support children's home learning even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY546868
Local authority	Stoke-on-Trent
Inspection number	10107014
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was carried out by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the childminder's documents. This included evidence of suitability and training.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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