

01/06/2009

Our Reference 260767

## **Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate**

An Ofsted inspector, Denise May Smith, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 07/05/2009. This visit follows on from your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

### **Outcome of the visit**

As a result of our inspection on 26/03/2009, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

This notice required you to: ensure that Ofsted is notified of any change of person aged 16 or over living or working on the premises and to ensure that children do not leave the premises unsupervised and take steps to prevent intruders entering the premises. This referred to the unsecured front door.

As a result of this inspection you were also sent a notice to improve which required you to: implement an effective policy on administering medication; ensure that records are kept of all accidents and first aid treatment; implement a procedure to be followed for the protection of children in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance and procedures; ensure the procedure for children who are ill or infectious covers arrangements for exclusion and is discussed with parents and to conduct a risk assessment that identifies aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis and maintain a record of this. This notice also required you to provide the following information for parents: the type of activities provided for the children; the procedure to be followed in the event of a parent failing to collect a child at the appointed time and the procedure to be followed in the event of a child going missing;

This notice further required you to: gain knowledge and understanding of the EYFS learning and development requirements so that children are provided with an educational programme that will enable them to make progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning; undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs as they progress towards the early learning goals and to plan and provide experiences which are appropriate

to each child's stage of development through a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that at this time you are making satisfactory improvement overall.

### **Overall effectiveness of the improvement and outcomes for children**

An inspector conducted a monitoring visit on the 07 May 2009. From evidence provided during this visit the inspector was satisfied that all of the issues raised in this welfare requirement notice and notice to improve have either been met or are being addressed.

The childminder ensures that children do not leave the premises unsupervised. The front door is now locked, and the keys stored in an accessible place in case of an emergency. Older children have to ask to go out and the door is locked behind them. No entry can be gained from the outside without knocking on the door to be let in. The childminder has written a policy which includes this new process. A written risk assessment has been implemented for all areas of the house which children have access to and any action taken to minimise identified risks to children. The framework she now has in place will enable her to extend the areas to be risk assessed. For example, the children's use of toys, the age appropriateness of toys provided and activities such as risks at meal times.

An effective policy on administering medication is also now in place; it has been shared with parents and is followed as the need arises. Any medication administered is recorded in an appropriate way. The childminder is aware that she must ensure that records are kept of all accidents and first aid treatment administered. There have not been any accidents to record since the last inspection; however, the childminder has recorded the minor injuries the children have sustained outside of her care. She has now introduced a written procedure for children who are ill or infectious which covers arrangements for exclusion; this has been shared with the parents of the children in her care. The childminder confirms that she would not care for a child who was ill or infectious.

The childminder has written two policies relating to the procedure to be followed in the event of a parent failing to collect a child and the procedure to be followed in the event of a child going missing. Although the childminder understands the procedures to follow, the written policies require further development to ensure they can effectively support the childminder should these events occur and keep parents totally informed of the procedures to be followed. A written procedure, together with appropriate guidance documents, are now in place outlining what action to take if the childminder had a concern relating to the children in her care. The childminder was able to explain and discuss the process she would follow. The new written policies have all been shared with parents, who have also been provided with information relating to the types of activities provided for the children and their daily routines. Each parent has a daily diary containing such information.

The childminder has begun to address the issues highlighted which are related to the learning and development requirements. She has obtained a copy of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) and the associated guidance and is using these to gain a knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements so that children are provided with an educational programme that will enable them to make progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning. The childminder continues to try and gain a place on a related training course to consolidate her understanding of these issues.

Individual folders have been set up for each child on the early years register. The folders contain all of the required permissions and contact details, plus sheets for observations under each of the six areas of learning. Additionally, forms are included to plan and record main activities which are provided for the children, with space to record the identified next steps of learning. The childminder has begun to make observations of children as they achieve, which are linked to these areas. These are currently recorded in the children's daily diaries. These observations are beginning to help the childminder identify the children's next steps in learning and help her plan for the children. However, these are not yet sufficiently developed to effectively support her in meeting young children's individual needs as they progress towards the early learning goals. Parents have been provided with information relating to the types of activities provided for the children and their daily routines in the form of a daily diary.

The childminder provides experiences which are appropriate to each child's stage of development. She uses the EYFS practice guidance document to check children's development stages and ensure the activities are appropriate and that children are making suitable progress. They have opportunities to initiate some of their own chosen activities as they play with the available toys, and the childminder is planning to ensure that this is balanced by introducing activities such as potato printing, sowing seeds and plant potting. The childminder describes ensuring children have time to play indoors and outside as part of their daily routine together with opportunities to attend local toddler and support groups where they can socialise.

Overall, the childminder has worked hard to ensure that the issues raised in the welfare requirement notice and notice to improve have been met by the required date. These issues will be monitored at a future visit.

Some further work is required on two of the policy documents and these will be further assessed at the next visit when the learning and development requirement notice will be monitored. The childminder has made satisfactory progress overall.

### **Next steps**

Having considered all the evidence the inspector is of the opinion that at this time:

- The childminder has made satisfactory progress in addressing the points for improvement. The next visit will be a further monitoring visit.

I hope that you have found the visit helpful in promoting improvement in your childminding service. If you have any further queries please contact us on the number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R Shippam". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Roger Shippam  
Director, Children