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Our Reference 121726

Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Cheryl Walker, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 18/11/2013. 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 12/07/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The welfare requirement notice under the Early Years Foundation Stage Welfare Requirements required you to:

organise the premises so as to meet children's needs by making resources and play materials readily available to them, so they can select what they wish to play with and become independent learners; update knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and child protection requirements, ensuring policies and procedures are in line with requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Local Safeguarding Children Board; obtain and maintain a current paediatric first aid certificate; maintain a daily record of the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance; ensure that children's learning and development is supported by improving systems of self-evaluation to accurately identify strengths and areas for development in the child care practice and to ensure that the risk assessment identifies all risks to children and take immediate action to minimise these, with particular regard to the fireplace, electrical items and protecting children from access to bird droppings.

We also sent you a notice to improve that asked you to:

ensure that there are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies and teach children when it is necessary to wash their hands, in order to prevent cross infection and keep children in good health; gain knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, in order to meet the individual needs, interests and stages of development of each child

through planning a challenging and enjoyable experience in all the areas of learning through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated play; and gain knowledge of and implement the progress check for children aged between two and three years in order to report on progress to parents, and involve parents in their children's assessment.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 18 November 2013. The inspector found that you have obtained support via local resources in order to improve the service you offer. The welfare requirement notice has been met and sufficient progress has been made in meeting the actions listed in the notice to improve.

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

The provider has recognised weaknesses in the provision and is taking appropriate steps to rectify the issues and make improvements. She has thoroughly reviewed the service she provides to ensure she meets with current requirements. She has implemented the use of observations to enable her to plan more effectively for children's individual learning patterns and continues to increase her knowledge of the EYFS framework in order to improve outcomes for children.

New storage equipment has been obtained to allow resources to be stored in a way that children can reach and access their chosen activity. This enables children to make independent choices in their play.

The safeguarding policy has been updated to include information about cameras and mobile telephones. The provider has researched the issue and was able to discuss her increased understanding of procedures to be followed if concerns were noted about a child's welfare, or allegations made.

She is due to attend a safeguarding course and has also updated her training in food handling and paediatric first aid.

The safety of the environment is enhanced through the use of risk assessment. A fire guard is in place, along with safety covers along the hearth; flexes and wires have been removed from children's reach and sockets made less accessible to children. Suitable nappy changing facilities are now in place to ensure hygiene and the bird cage has also been made less accessible to children.

The provider has researched the two year progress check expected to be completed by those that deliver the EYFS and continues to enhance her knowledge of learning and development requirements through research, support and training.

Appropriate systems are now in place to record children's attendance accurately.

Next steps

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

- The childminder has made satisfactory improvement. The next visit will be a full inspection.

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

Susan Gregory HMI
National Director, Inspection Delivery