

Our Reference EY410305

Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Mark Evans, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 02/12/2013. 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 23/07/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The actions raised in the welfare requirement notice under the Early Years Foundation Stage Welfare Requirements asked you to: ensure the safeguarding procedure which includes the appropriate use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting is implemented effectively (Child Protection); ensure the premises are safe and suitable for children and fit for purpose, with specific regard to the outdoor pool and display of inappropriate pictures on the first floor (Safety) and ensure you have a clear and well understood policy and procedures, for assessing any risk to children's safety, and review risk assessments regularly with particular regard to the outdoor pool (Risk assessment).

The actions raised in the notice to improve under the Early Years Foundation Stage Welfare Requirements asked you to: ensure records are easily accessible and available this is with particular regard to a first aid certificate for assistants who may have sole care of the children; ensure that assigned key person tailors children's care to meet their individual needs; ensure confidential information and records about children are held securely and only accessible and available to those who have a right or professional need to see them; ensure that children are consistently provided with a balance of healthy and nutritious meals and snacks; ensure staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children to ensure their safety, and that they are adequately supervised to meet their needs and improve the planning of challenging and enjoyable learning experiences by taking into account individual needs, interests and stage of development for each child.

The actions raised in the notice to improve under the Childcare Register

Requirements asked you to: ensure that the premises used for the purposes of childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare and undertake a risk assessment of the premises and ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks.

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

At the second monitoring visit on 02 December 2013 the regulatory inspector found, through observation, discussion and documentation, that all actions had been met and sustained.

The childminder makes sure that any mobile phones are kept appropriately in a storage basket, which is out of reach of children. There is a printed notice that informs of where mobile phones should be stored whilst on the premises. The childminder checks that visitors comply with the mobile phone policy. In the entrance hallway there is a notice board with various documentation displayed; this includes current training certificates for adults with paediatric first aid. Children's personal records and contact details are filed in separate sections and there are learning journey files for each child. Documents are available for inspection; they are stored for easy access and are available to parents.

The childminder does not currently use the paddling pool for outside play and has stored it in a secure shed. A poster with an inappropriate image is no longer displayed in a first floor bedroom. A written risk assessment policy is in place and there are recorded risk assessments available for the premises and for children's activities identified with any risk. The risk assessments include the use of the paddling pool, which was reviewed and updated to further reduce risk, ensuing practice such as adult supervision of children at all times when using this equipment. These aspects help to provide an appropriate and safe environment for children.

The childminder works with another childminder and they share aspects of children's care and learning. The childminders have clear arrangements for each childminder to be identified as a key person. This helps children and parents to form a consistent relationship with the childminder. The childminder shares information with the children's parents to further support continuity for the child.

Children enjoy snacks that are healthy, selecting fruits such as banana, orange and apple and then threading them to make a fruit stick to eat the fruit from. The childminder confirms that meals are sometimes provided for children and these include a balanced range of foods, such as pasta dishes, meat and vegetable stews and sausage casserole. Opportunities are provided for children to develop independence, for example, to make their own sandwiches and to select fillings, such as cheese and ham.

The childminder has devised a system for the planning of learning experiences for children; this takes account of their individual interests and their stages of development. Children have a learning journey that includes written observations, photographs of what children can do and selected items of art. This information helps to identify children's next steps. The childminder has a meeting with her co-childminder once a week to discuss and plan for children's activities. Children have opportunities for exploring malleable materials; they engage enthusiastically with singing and action songs and develop aspects of learning, such as subtraction by taking away by one at a time. They enjoy selecting books and listening to stories read by adults.

The childminder was observed to meet with the actions required and to sustain this improvement. The next visit will be a full inspection.

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