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Our Reference 116147

## **Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate**

An Ofsted inspector, Heather Allen, monitored your provision on 29/01/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

## **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 22/08/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

You were also sent 15 notices to improve. The welfare requirements notice had a completion date of 6 December 2013 and required you to keep an accurate daily record of the names of the children being cared for on the premises, their hours of attendance and the names of each child's key person.

The notices to improve with a completion date of 29 November 2013 required you to: ensure people whose suitability has not been checked, including through a disclosure and barring check service, do not have unsupervised contact with children being cared for; ensure at least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate is on the premises at all times when children are present, and accompany children on outings; ensure that staffing arrangements and the deployment of assistants effectively meet the needs of all children; ensure that outdoor activities are planned and taken on a daily basis so children have regular opportunities for fresh air and to develop their physical skills; ensure sleeping children are checked frequently; assess and take steps to minimise any risks to children's safety, including with regard to blinds with cords; keep children safe on outings and identify and make safe any risks to children, to include ensuring that car seats are in a good state of repair and age appropriate; and ensure effective systems in place so that inappropriate attitudes and practices are challenged and adults provide good role models to encourage children to value and respect others.

The notice to improve with a completion date of 9 December 2013 required you to ensure the premises and equipment are organised in a way that meets the needs of children at all times and that indoor space requirements are met.

The notice to improve with a completion date of 13 December 2013 required you to: develop the key person system to ensure that every child's care is tailored to meet

their individual needs, offers a settled relationship and enables a two-way flow of information with parents; and ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for the supervision of assistants/co-minders who have contact with children and families. Provide support, coaching and training which promotes the interests of children.

The notice to improve with a completion date of 30 December 2013 required you to: ensure each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity; make sure children have opportunities to experience a rich language environment, so they develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves and can speak and listen in a range of situations; implement on-going observations and assessments of children's levels of achievement, interests and learning styles and use these to shape learning experiences for each child so they make progress in their learning and development; and ensure the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child is considered and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all of the areas of learning and development.

An inspector visited you on 12 December 2013 to monitor your progress. The inspector found that a written daily attendance record was in place with the names of the children being cared for on the premises, their hours of attendance and the names of assistants. Checks had been carried out on all persons aged 16 years and over living or working on the premises. You explained to the inspector that people whose suitability had not been checked did not have unsupervised contact with children being cared for. You showed the inspector current paediatric first aid certificates for staff. One member of staff did not have a paediatric certificate but was not left alone with children. Staff were deployed appropriately on the day of the monitoring visit. You demonstrated how daily plans for children included opportunities for them to go outdoors or on outings. You had monitoring facilities and sleep charts to demonstrate that sleeping children were regularly checked. Children were kept safe indoors because blinds with cords had either been removed or placed out of reach of children. You took steps to keep children safe on outings. You described how car seats and restraints were age appropriate and you had checked them to ensure they were in good condition. Parents had given written permission for children to be transported. You had discussed with staff the need to be sensitive with the language used in front of children. Children had comfortable and sufficient space to play in during the monitoring visit.

The inspector did not fully monitor progress with regard to the actions due for completion on 13 December 2013, as these were not yet due. However, during discussion and in your written response you explained how the key person took responsibility for settling in new children, nappy changes, sleep times and handovers to parents. The inspector observed that children and carers interacted well together.

The inspector did not fully monitor progress with regard to the learning and development actions as these were not due for completion until 30 December 2013. These were to be fully reviewed at the next monitoring visit. However, the inspector

observed that children were absorbed and occupied with a range of activities and resources during the visit.

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

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

On 29 January 2014, an inspector carried out a monitoring visit to check the progress being made to meet the actions raised following inspection.

At the monitoring visit the inspector specifically explored the progress made with regard to the actions set in relation to the learning and development requirements, namely: implement on-going observations and assessments of children's levels of achievement, interests and learning styles and use these to shape learning experiences for each child so they make progress in their learning and development; ensure each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity; make sure children have opportunities to experience a rich language environment, so they develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves and can speak and listen in a range of situations; and ensure the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child is considered and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all of the areas of learning and development.

Through discussion, observation and looking at documentation, the inspector found that regular team meetings are held to ensure consistent support is given to children. An effective key person system is in place. The key person takes responsibility for supporting individual children to make progress in their learning and development and for liaising with parents. Information is obtained about children's interests and abilities when they first start. In addition, regular and detailed observations of children are carried out in order to gain first-hand knowledge of what children enjoy and can do. Children have opportunities to initiate their own play. Staff are aware of what children are interested in and provide appropriate resources. For example, children who enjoy building are given construction tools to play with and encouraged to dress up as Bob the Builder.

Staff observe and assess areas where children are struggling and plan the next steps to support and help children make progress. For example, when young children have difficulties identifying colours additional activities are planned. Staff liaise with parents to encourage them to support their child's learning at home. Children's progress is recorded in each area of learning, with a full review carried out and shared with parents every three months

Different themes are planned for children's activities in order to engage and interest children. For example, a recent theme has been 'Forest in the winter'. Activities linked to this theme are planned, such as walks in the forest and collecting bark for use in arts and crafts activities. Children's language skills are encouraged through the use of flash cards and reading books related to the theme, such as 'The Three Bears'. Activities are adapted according to children's ability with children having freedom to create personalised models, such as making a robin using paper plates

and other resources.

The inspector also monitored progress made with regard to the safeguarding and welfare requirements and found that improvements found at the previous monitoring visit have been maintained. Children are settled and engaged in age-appropriate activities. Sleeping children are regularly checked and sleep monitors used. Details of sleep times are recorded and shared with parents on a daily basis.

Having considered all the evidence the inspector is of the opinion that the provider has taken prompt and effective action to address the points for improvement.

### **Next steps**

The next step will be a full inspection.

If you have any further queries please contact us on the number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Lorna Fitzjohn  
National Director

## Actions

Action	Due date	Closed date
ensure each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity	24/12/2013	29/01/2014
make sure children have opportunities to experience a rich language environment, so they develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves and can speak and listen in a range of situations	24/12/2013	29/01/2014
implement ongoing observations and assessments of children's levels of achievement, interests and learning styles and use these to shape learning experiences for each child so they make progress in their learning and development	24/12/2013	29/01/2014
ensure the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child is considered and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all of the areas of learning and development	24/12/2013	29/01/2014