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Our Reference 154011

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Linda Williamson, monitored your provision on 04/12/2013 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 07/10/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

This requires you to ensure records are easily accessible and available, with particular reference to prove which children are siblings, to show an exception to the usual ratios can be made; maintain records to ensure the safe and efficient management of the setting, and to help ensure the needs of all children are met; notify Ofsted of any person aged 16 years or older working on childminding premises; and ensure that the staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children, to ensure they are safe and adequately supervised at all times.

In addition we sent you a notice to improve that asks you to,

- improve systems for self-evaluation, to identify all areas of strengths and weakness and include contributions from staff, parents and children to foster a culture of continuous improvement to promote the interests of children
- review the risk assessment process, with particular reference to the dogs, to improve and monitor safety, supervision and effectiveness of children's welfare
- ensure that any care provided for older children does not adversely affect the care of early years children
- ensure that childminder and staff have a full and confident understanding of all aspects of the safeguarding policies and procedures; particularly with regards to knowing what to do should they have concerns about any adults they may work with
- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks
- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person working with children

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

You have reviewed your systems to register the attendance of the children and your assistants. Your records clearly show you meet the required adult to child ratios, in particular at times when you are caring for more than 3 children in the early years age range, you demonstrate which children are siblings to fulfil the exemption rule. You have made good use of the support and advice from other agencies and as result you have met all the actions and are now compliant with the requirements of registration. You have installed an intruder alarm and this provides a clear audible signal to inform you of the presence of a person in your front garden, as a result you know if someone is approaching your house. The premises, including outdoor spaces, are secure. You have taken all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises. The risk assessment takes into account the presence of the family pets, and identifies actions to be taken to reduce the risk of harm to the children.

You continue to ensure you do not allow unsupervised access to children by any person whose suitability has not been checked. You ensure you receive formal notification from Ofsted in respect of the suitability of any assistant you employ. Parental permission is sought in respect of assistants caring for children, and parents are aware their child may be left in the sole care of childminders' assistants for no more than 2 hours in a single day. You ensure your assistant is confident in dealing with safeguarding issues. During the visit you provided evidence to confirm assistants are adequately insured to use their own car to transport children.

You have reviewed the staff deployment and made changes to the planning of the day, as a result the needs of all children are met. During the visit the care provided for older children did not have an adverse effect on the care and education of younger children. The inspector observed good interaction between adults and children, as well as between older and younger children.

The inspector observed children were supervised at all times. As a result you demonstrate that the individual needs of all the children are being met, therefore the exception to the usual ratios can be made you are caring for sibling babies.

The observations recorded show you consider the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child in your care. The improvements made to the planning records show how you provide a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all of the areas of learning and development. The inspector observed an appropriate mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities.

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 that childminder and staff have a full and confident understanding of all aspects of the safeguarding policies and procedures; particularly with regards to knowing what to do should they have concerns about any adults they may work with	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
ensure that any care provided for older children does not adversely affect the care of early years children	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
review the risk assessment process, with particular reference to the dogs, to improve and monitor safety, supervision and effectiveness of children's welfare	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
improve systems for self-evaluation, to identify all areas of strength and weakness and include contributions from staff, parents and children to foster a culture of continuous improvement to promote the interests of children	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the childcare register)	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the childcare register)	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person working with children (compulsory part of the childcare register)	22/11/2013	04/12/2013
inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person working with children (voluntary part of the childcare register).	22/11/2013	04/12/2013