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Our Reference 252769

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

An Ofsted inspector, Anne Barnsley, monitored your provision on 10/02/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

### **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 14/11/2013, we sent you a notice to improve. The actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

During the monitoring visit the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She observed you working with the children and viewed the resources and activities available and how you organise these to promote all areas of learning. She discussed with you the steps you have taken to ensure that all household members over the age of 16 years have completed the necessary suitability checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service and she asked to see these documents for verification. The inspector was unable to speak to a representative from the local authority, because you have been unable to access a representative to provide support. She discussed your plan of improvement with you and looked at the records you now maintain to show how you organise observation, assessment and planning to meet children's individual needs and to help support them with making progress in their learning and development. The inspector also looked at your safeguarding policy and your procedure for administering medicine to children. She discussed with you what steps you have taken to improve partnership working with parents and other providers who provide shared care to enable them, and yourself, to support children's learning through a consistent and continuous approach.

The inspector found that you have the correct documentation in place, which shows that all household members over the age of 16 have completed the appropriate checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service, which contributes to safeguarding children. You recognise the importance of ensuring that any person over the age of 16 years is cleared if they are going to have regular contact with children. You have also updated your safeguarding policy to include a procedure for the use of mobile phones and cameras in your setting. You have made certain that all children, parents and visitors are aware of this procedure and understand why they cannot use these

on your premises. By doing so, you have also safeguarded children. The inspector looked at your medication policy and documentation and verifies that you have obtained prior written consent from parents to administer medication to their child. These consent forms are kept safe and confidential and you know to keep all information about medications for a minimum of three years.

You have worked very closely with the local pre-school to develop your knowledge and understanding of how to use assessment effectively to maximise the learning that children receive at your setting. You have had several meetings with the pre-school and, as a result, you have improved your system of observation, assessment and planning. You complete systematic observations of children and assess these against the early years outcomes to enable you to plan around children's next steps. Observations of you working with children show that you are providing interesting activities that both support and challenge children's thinking. You plan activities around children's next steps to help them to make progress and you take account of children's interests so that activities stimulate and motivate them. Further to this, you have made some self-initiated improvements to the organisation of your setting to enable children to be active learners and develop their independence and creativity. By gaining more knowledge about the characteristics of effective teaching and learning, you recognise that children benefit most from a balance of adult-led and child-led learning. To achieve this you have organised resources into areas of learning throughout your home, making better use of space, which enhances learning for children. Children can explore and make their own choices and you extend their interests through your more confident engagement and interaction. You have reduced the amount of toys that children have out at any one time and this has made learning more meaningful for children as they use their resources with greater purpose. You have a better understanding now of the individual needs of the children you care for and can plan more effectively to help prepare them for school. These improvements have helped you to develop better partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend, because you are more confident to share information about children's learning. Parents have more regular access to children's assessments and planning and are better informed about how they can support their child's learning at home. This provides children with consistency and continuity in their learning, which consolidates what they learn with you and helps with their ongoing progress.

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

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**Next steps**

The next step 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

Lorna Fitzjohn  
National Director, Childminding

**Actions**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Due date</b>	<b>Closed date</b>
cooperate with Ofsted by providing the required information and records promptly, to ensure relevant checks for persons over 16 living on the premises are carried out to confirm their suitability to have regular contact with children	10/02/2014	10/02/2014
ensure the safeguarding policy and procedures are in line with current requirements, with particular regard to the use of mobile phones and cameras	10/02/2014	10/02/2014
ensure medication is not administered to a child unless prior written consent has been obtained from the child's parent or carer for that particular medication	10/02/2014	10/02/2014
ensure that every child's learning and care is tailored to meet their individual needs through precise and accurate assessment of each child's progress, and use this information to provide a quality learning experience through thoughtfully planned activities that maximise each child's progress.	10/02/2014	10/02/2014
ensure that any person in regular contact with children obtains an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	10/02/2014	10/02/2014
keep a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent for each medication administered to a child (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	10/02/2014	10/02/2014
keep a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent for each medication administered to a child (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	10/02/2014	10/02/2014