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Our Reference 505725

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Liz Caluori, monitored your provision on 21/02/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 21/11/2013, 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 had taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She looked at the documentation you provided including a report from an advisor from the local authority, and the risk assessments you have completed since your inspection. She also observed the children playing within your home and viewed changes that you have made to the organisation of your premises.

The report from the local authority advisor indicates that you are accepting appropriate advice and support to improve your practices. You provided written copies of the risk assessments that you have completed since your inspection. These show that you have identified risks within your home, garden and on outings. They include details of the action you have taken to minimise these. For example, following the risk assessment, you have fitted a cover to ensure that the radiator next to the table used by children does not pose a hazard. You are currently not allowing children to use your garden as building work has not yet finished. However, you are taking children out locally, to parks and groups, to ensure that they are able to play outside each day. In addition, you have completed a risk assessment indicating how the garden will be safely used when the building work is completed.

The inspector found that you have now included your dogs in your risk assessment. You outline how you will ensure that children are safe when out walking with the dogs. You explain that you will only let the dogs near the children if the dogs are behaving sensibly and will ensure that they do not jump up at children. You inform parents that you have dogs and you have a policy in place which details the steps you take to keep your dogs healthy so that there are no health risks to children. However, you do not have clear arrangements in place to ensure that all parents understand that their children will be in direct contact with the dogs and may hold

their leads with you when out walking.

The inspector found that you have taken some effective action to address the recommendations set at your inspection. You have reorganised your play room, creating more clear floor space, and improved the storage of toys. As a result, children are able to select items more independently and have space to engage in a variety of activities at the same time. You have also strengthened your arrangements for sharing information with parents about their child's learning and development. You now ask parents to initial your copy of assessment records to evidence that they have read these. You state that you speak with parents regularly about their child's achievements at home but have yet to gather evidence of the ways in which this information supports you in your planning and assessment.

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

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.

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

Action	Due date	Closed date
take the necessary steps to effectively remove, minimise and manage risks and hazards to children on the premises, and on outings, particularly when the dogs are also included	21/11/2013	21/02/2014
undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment: at least once in each calendar year, and immediately, where the need for an assessment arises, ensuring that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	21/11/2013	21/02/2014
undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment: at least once in each calendar year, and immediately, where the need for an assessment arises, ensuring that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	21/11/2013	21/02/2014