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Our Reference EY460995

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

An Ofsted inspector, Sarah Street, monitored your provision on 06/04/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

## **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 06/01/2014, we sent you a notice to improve.

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 interaction between you and children, and spoke to a local childminder, who has supported you, on the telephone. The inspector reviewed children's observation and planning records and observed your resources. She also reviewed the Disclosure and Barring Service certificate for your assistant.

The inspector found that you have taken prompt action to address the issues raised at the last inspection. The local authority provides support from a local childminder and you have taken advantage of this one allocated visit to discuss the actions raised. In addition, you have sought ideas from your local children's centre and on the internet. You intend to enrol on a childcare qualification course and will shortly be volunteering in a local nursery. This demonstrates your commitment to improving your service.

You assistant now holds a Disclosure and Barring Service certificate which means that children are cared for by adults who are vetted. You have effective systems in place to ensure any unvetted adult is not alone with children. This contributes to ensuring children are safe in your care.

You are developing your observation and assessment systems. Each child now has an individual observation and planning file. You use a variety of childcare tracking systems to ensure children are making progress in their individual learning and development. You involve parents in this process by sharing records and asking them to contribute to a summary planning sheet. This supports partnership working as you jointly plan the next steps in children's learning. These systems are in their infancy but you demonstrate improving confidence about how you use these to ensure children are now appropriately challenged. For example, you provide finger paints

and sponges to support a toddler's emerging interest in making marks, and an obstacle course for babies who are developing their mobility. These activities are achievable, interest children and help prepare them for their next stage of learning.

The programme for communication and language has developed. You recognise the importance of talking to the children and regularly do this with enthusiasm. You also sing to the children which they obviously enjoy. In addition, you have developed your range of books and there are now books suitable for very young children. This all helps children hear a variety of words and encourage them to develop their language and listening skills.

You have extended your resources, recognising the importance of ensuring these are appropriate for the age and stage of development of children in your care. New items include a sand and water tray, dolls, baby gym, musical instruments and age-appropriate posters. The inspector observed the children's curiosity and independence as they explored the toys with interest. This contributes to children having suitable stimulation and challenge as they play and learn.

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