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Our Reference EY377221

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Jan Burnet, monitored your provision on 09/04/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 12/12/2013, 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 discussed the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements with you and also learning and development and assessment requirements. The inspector observed you working with children and viewed resources available to children.

The inspector found that you are aware that assistants must hold a current first aid certificate if they are to be left in sole charge of children for any period of time and that parental permission must be obtained to leave children with an assistant. However, this is no longer applicable because you are no longer working with an assistant. You have discussed the actions raised at the time of the inspection with your local authority representative and have worked with her to improve your practice with regard to planning for the next steps in children's learning in accordance with their interests and stages of development. Each child's observation, assessment and planning folder begins with an explanation for parents on the seven areas of learning and a 'tracking sheet' showing developmental stages. Folders contain photographs, spontaneous observations and some more detailed observations. You explain that observation notes are recorded on different coloured paper to show whether they are your observations, parents' observations or ones from other early years providers. You explain that the local authority representative has been helping you to include more detail in your observations and use what you know more effectively to plan for the next steps in children's learning.

The inspector found that you have taken appropriate steps to improve the organisation of toys and resources so that children can make independent choices. You now provide natural resources for babies and young children to explore and investigate. The inspector found that recommendations with regard to sharing more

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information with parents and other providers in order to ensure continuity of learning for children have been addressed appropriately.

The inspector observed the children being cared for on the day of the monitoring visit to be happy, sociable and confident. They were making decisions about activities, and confidently chose resources that you ensure are easily accessible to them.

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
ensure that all childcare assistants hold a current paediatric first-aid certificate, if they are to be in sole charge of children for any period of time	09/04/2014	09/04/2014
obtain parental permission to leave children with an assistant, including for very short periods of time	09/04/2014	09/04/2014
consider the individual needs, interests and stages of development of each child and use this information to plan purposeful play for each child through a mixture of child-initiated and adult-led experiences so that each child makes good progress across each area of learning	09/04/2014	09/04/2014
improve the organisation of toys and resources so that children can make independent choices in their play and follow their own interests. Provide babies and young children with a range of open-ended natural materials and textures to stimulate their urge to explore and investigate using all their senses.	09/04/2014	09/04/2014
ensure parents have given their consent for children to be left with the childminding assistant, including for very short periods of time (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	09/04/2014	09/04/2014
ensure parents have given their consent for children to be left with the childminding assistant, including for very short periods of time (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	09/04/2014	09/04/2014