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Our Reference EY300284

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Ann Austen, monitored your provision on 23/04/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 29/01/2014, 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 policies and procedures to safeguard children including the complaints procedure and viewed relevant documentation. The inspector spoke to you and had a discussion with a representative from the Childcare Quality Regulations advisory team. She observed interaction between yourself and the children, viewed assessment and planning records and discussed partnerships with parents.

The inspector found that you have developed a focused improvement plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection and have introduced systems to evaluate the quality of the practice and the impact this has on outcomes for children. This has enabled you to identify how to address the areas for improvement identified at your last inspection and to plan for ongoing improvement.

Effective steps have been taken to improve observation and assessment processes. You have welcomed support from the Childcare Quality Regulations advisory team and attended a training course to improve your knowledge and skills in this area. As a result, you are now able to observe and assess children as they play and you are beginning to use this information to plan further activities based on their next steps and interests. This has led to an improved programme of activities and experiences and as a consequence children are now making better progress.

The partnership with parents has improved. You have implemented an appropriate key person system with your co-childminder. This has helped you to ensure that each child's care and learning is tailored to meet their individual needs. Parents are also encouraged to contribute to the initial assessment process by providing information relating to starting points on entry. This has given you helpful

information to use in planning activities to support children's future learning based on their next steps and interests. Systems for sharing ongoing updates on the children's achievements and progress have improved, which means that, parents can talk to their child's key person daily. They are invited to regular consultation sessions and are encouraged to share information about their child's learning at home. This has resulted in a more integrated approach to the children's learning and development.

Procedures to safeguard children have improved. The written safeguarding policy now includes an explanation of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against yourself, the co-childminder or others living at your home. It also covers the use of mobile phones and cameras. The revised procedures have been shared with parents and you have displayed posters to remind them not to use their mobile phones and cameras in your home. You have also implemented a clear procedure if a parent or carer fails to collect their child at the agreed time. This means the safety and well-being of children has been further enhanced.

The complaints procedure has improved. This is because you have included the correct details for contacting Ofsted. The Ofsted poster is now displayed for parents in the entrance area. As a result, parents know who to contact should they have concerns about the service provided.

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
develop the process of observation and assessment for identifying children's level of achievement, interests and learning style, and use this to inform planning for the next steps in learning for every child so that they make as much progress as they can	31/03/2014	23/04/2014
develop the partnership with parents to ensure that they are kept up to date with their child's progress and development, and use information from parents to plan for their child's learning so that the children make consistently good progress	31/03/2014	23/04/2014
make sure that the complaint procedure includes the correct details for contacting Ofsted	28/02/2014	23/04/2014
make Ofsted's address available to parents (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).	28/02/2014	23/04/2014
inform parents of the procedure in the event of an allegation being made against a childminder or anyone who lives or works at the premises, the procedure to be followed should they fail to collect their child at the agreed time, and the procedure for the use of mobile phones and cameras.	28/02/2014	23/04/2014