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Our Reference EY334925

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

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

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 06/02/2014, we sent you a welfare requirements notice. The actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

To improve the quality of education and care for children you were required to: ensure that at any one time; no more than six children under eight are cared for, which includes three younger children and one child under one and ensure records are easily accessible and available on request. It is an offence for a person who without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a welfare requirement notice. Failure to comply may result in a prosecution.

In addition to the welfare requirement notice you were also issued a notice to undertake additional improvements as follows: keep children safe by undertaking effective risk assessments, to ensure all risks to children are identified and minimised, particularly in relation to the fire in the lounge and the open stairs in the hallway; ensure the risk assessment for outings includes consideration of adult to child ratios; ensure children's learning and development is effectively supported by working in partnership with parents and other practitioners to observe and assess the progress all children are making and by using this information to plan suitable activities that support children to achieve their next steps in learning and to make good progress and support all three characteristics of effective teaching and learning, with specific regards to enabling children to freely access resources in order to make choices and be spontaneous in their play and develop their own ideas and by providing suitable learning experiences that support all children to be active in their learning. Some actions on the notice were also repeated to reflect the legal requirements of the compulsory and voluntary parts of the General Childcare Register.

During the monitoring visit carried out on 4 April 2014 it was found that you had taken immediate steps to ensure that the documents and evidence showing how children's care and learning development needs are met had been retrieved and

made readily available for parents and inspectors to view. Steps had also been taken to ensure that the number and ages of children you care for comply with the Early Years Foundation Stage, statutory framework regulations. A child cared for in terms of an emergency on the day of inspection is not part of the children on roll. You have also shown through the records of attendance, which are currently maintained, that you do not care for more than six children under the age of eight and that of those no more than three children are aged within the early years age range.

The paperwork having been retrieved from storage since the last inspection was shown to the inspector and as a result of your discussion with the inspector on 4 April 2014 has demonstrated that you share information with parents about child development and engage with other professionals to benefit children's learning and developmental progress. Where a need arises to support children you have, for instance, made links to speech and language therapy. There is evidence that children are supported to achieve their next steps in learning and that improvements have been made in enabling children to make choices about the resources they need or want to use, by making these more accessible. You described how pictures of those resources that are stored in inaccessible drawers above child height allow all children, including those with limited language development, to express their needs or desires in obtaining the resources required, to find their own ways to represent and develop their ideas through play.

Your risk assessment documents support your answers in terms of your knowledge of assessing risks to children within and home and whilst on outings. Although there were no child minded children present during the monitoring visit to demonstrate how the quality of the risks assessed were minimised on a daily basis both inside and outside the home with the children, you sufficiently demonstrated the capacity to safeguard the children in your care to warrant a full inspection be undertaken to allow you to demonstrate this further.

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 children's learning and development is effectively supported by working in partnership with parents and other practitioners to observe and assess the progress all children are making and by using this information to plan suitable activities that support children to achieve their next steps in learning and to make good progress	24/02/2014	04/04/2014
keep a daily record of the names of children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
keep a daily record of the names of children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
display the certificate of registration on the premises on which the childcare is provided (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
WRN: ensure at any one time, no more than six children under eight are cared for, which includes three younger children and one child under one	24/03/2014	04/04/2014
WRN: ensure records are easily accessible and available on request	24/03/2014	04/04/2014
display the certificate of registration on the premises on which the childcare is provided (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
keep children safe by undertaking effective risk assessments to ensure all risks to children are identified and minimised, particularly in relation to the fire in the lounge and the open stairs in the hallway	14/02/2014	05/04/2014
ensure the risk assessment for outings includes consideration of adult to child ratios	14/02/2014	04/04/2014

keep a daily record of children's hours of attendance	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
display the certificate of registration	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
support all three characteristics of effective teaching and learning with specific regards to enabling children to freely access resources, in order to make choices and be spontaneous in their play and develop their own ideas and by providing suitable learning experiences that support all children to be active in their learning.	24/02/2014	04/04/2014
undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment, at least once in a calendar year and immediately where the need arises and ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	14/02/2014	04/04/2014
undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment, at least once in a calendar year and immediately where the need arises and ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	14/02/2014	04/04/2014