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Our Reference 260490

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, William Good, monitored your provision on 24/04/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 25/03/2014, we sent you a welfare requirements notice. The actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

The actions raised in the welfare requirement notice under the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements asked you to: ensure that the kitchen is suitable and adequately equipped for the hygienic preparation of food for children and, if necessary, includes suitable sterilisation equipment for babies' food; take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children in the event of a fire or other emergency by ensuring that the kitchen floor is free of all bags, boxes and things stored on the floor and that the kitchen door is kept free of obstruction and can be easily opened from inside; ensure that the premises including indoor and outdoor spaces are fit for purpose and that furniture, equipment and toys are safe, clean and comply with requirements of health and safety legislation including hygiene requirements; organise the premises and equipment in ways that meet the needs of the children by; providing sufficient space for children of different ages and stages to play in and explore safely and by ensuring that younger children and/or babies cannot access small, inappropriate toys or pieces that can cause them harm from choking or injury; and assess risks to children and review these regularly by; identifying aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis and by demonstrating how risks will be removed or minimised.

The actions raised in the notice to improve under the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements asked you to: provide space for children who wish to relax, play quietly or sleep equipped with appropriate equipment and ensure there are suitable hygienic changing facilities for changing any children who are in nappies.

The actions raised in the notice to improve under the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements asked you to: develop an effective process of ongoing assessment to identify each child's level of achievement within the seven areas of learning in relation to their age and stage of development and use this

information to plan future learning experiences for each child that is tailored to their individual needs and stages of development and helps each children make progress; implement each area of learning through planned, purposeful play and shape children's learning through a mix of adult-led and children initiated activity that responds to each child's emerging needs and interests; review all children's progress between the age of two and three years and provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development in the prime areas; and develop partnerships with other settings that children attend to share information about children's learning and development and keep parents better informed about their child's achievements and progress in learning and development, how you are helping their child to make the maximum progress they can and ways in which parents can support this at home.

The actions raised in the notice to improve under the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register requirements asked you to: ensure that the premises and equipment used for the purposes of the childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare; and 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 to ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks.

Through observation, documentation and discussion at the monitoring visit the inspector has concluded that you have taken insufficient action to address all of the issues raised at inspection.

The monitoring visit carried out on 24 April 2014 found that you had failed to promote the good health of children as areas of the kitchen were found to be unhygienic. The cooker and kitchen work surfaces, identified as an issue at the inspection, were found to be clean. However, the fridge where children's food is stored was not clean and built up dirt was found on areas of the kitchen floor and skirting board. Children's health is placed at risk due to food being stored in and children having access to an unhygienic environment. As a result, an action has been raised in a welfare requirement notice that requires you to:

ensure that the kitchen is suitable and adequately equipped for the hygienic preparation of food for children.

The lounge, hallway and the kitchen floor were clear from clutter so you and the children would have been able to evacuate safely in the event of fire. There was space for children to play and explore with only a few age appropriate toys on the floor which you rotate regularly. There were items such as pencils, jewellery and mints accessible to children in the lounge which may present a risk to their health. At points during the visit children were out of your sight in the lounge and could have accessed the items without your knowledge, putting them at risk. As a result, an action has been raised in a welfare requirement notice that requires you to:

ensure that the premises including indoor and outdoor spaces are fit for purpose and

that furniture, equipment and toys are safe, clean and comply with requirements of health and safety legislation including hygiene requirements.

A written risk assessment had been completed for all areas used on the premises. This identified aspects of the environment that needed to be checked in each area of the premises, any potential hazards and what action you would take to minimise or remove any risk and when. You had recognised that the garden was not currently suitable for children to play safely so were not currently using this area and were able to explain the hazards you would remove to make the area safe. Although you had completed a written risk assessment and taken steps to minimise or remove some risks, you had failed to recognise or minimise the risks associated with the hygiene of the kitchen and the items in the lounge. This raises concerns as to whether you can consistently identify and take action to minimise or remove risks to keep children safe.

There was space in the lounge for the children to sleep with appropriate equipment for children to sleep in. A clean nappy changing mat was available and used to change children in nappies. These aspects help to support children's care and welfare needs.

You have begun work on meeting the actions relating to learning and development including booking a number of training courses later this year. These actions will be fully assessed at the next monitoring visit after the due date for completion.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that the childminder has not taken prompt and effective action to address the points for improvement.

Next steps

The next step will be further monitoring.

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
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 to ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	16/04/2014	24/04/2014
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 to ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	16/04/2014	24/04/2014
develop an effective process of ongoing assessment to identify each child's level of achievement within the seven areas of learning in relation to their age and stage of development, and use this information to plan future learning experiences for each child that is tailored to their individual needs and stages of development and helps each children make progress	23/05/2014	
implement each area of learning through planned, purposeful play and shape children's learning through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity that responds to each child's emerging needs and interests	23/05/2014	
review all children's progress between the age of two and three years, and provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development in the prime areas	23/05/2014	
develop partnerships with other settings that children attend to share information about children's learning and development, and keep parents better informed about their child's achievements and progress in learning and development.	23/05/2014	

ensure that the premises and equipment used for the purposes of the childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	16/04/2014	24/04/2014
ensure that the premises and equipment used for the purposes of the childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	16/04/2014	24/04/2014
provide an appropriately equipped space for children who wish to relax, play quietly or sleep	16/04/2014	24/04/2014