

Our Reference EY439762

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, ISP Inspection, monitored your provision on 24/06/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 08/04/2014, we sent you a notice to improve. If you were set actions at the inspection, or as a result of our subsequent monitoring or investigations, these are included at the end of this letter unless we have already verified that they have been completed.

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 viewed documentation including your public liability insurance certificate, attendance registers, records of children's progress including observations and assessments, risk assessments, your written self-evaluation and formats for completing progress checks for two-year-old children. The inspector observed your practice with the children and discussed the progress you have made in addressing the actions set. In addition, the inspector viewed the records from the support visits from your local authority early years development team and spoke to a member of the team about your progress.

Through discussion with you, the inspector found you have developed a clear action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection. You have quickly implemented advice and guidance provided by the local authority. The inspector spoke to a representative from the local authority who commented positively on your progress. They commented that you have attended group support meetings in addition to the individual visits to you in order to develop your knowledge and understanding.

The inspector found that you have reviewed your practices and routines in order to supervise children adequately and meet their needs appropriately. You demonstrate an appropriate understanding of the ratios of children you may care for at any one time and when you can make exceptions to this. You are currently caring for additional children due to continuity of care and this arrangement will end shortly

due to changes in attendance patterns of minded children. You have completed a risk assessment in relation to caring for additional children and identified that you have sufficient resources. You demonstrate a secure awareness that, in the future, at times you will need to inform parents that you are unable to offer extra sessions to their children unless you have a place available. The changes in routines and practices mean that you are able to sufficiently meet children's needs.

The inspector observed that you explain to children and make sure they are somewhere safe when you need to leave the room, for example, to take a child upstairs for a sleep. This means children are aware that you will not be long and remain within your hearing. When children eat, you sit with them to supervise them to promote their safety. You supervise children's play in the garden appropriately by being outdoors with them when possible. If older children wish to play outdoors and younger children need to be indoors you stay in the conservatory which overlooks the garden. This enables you to supervise the older children while they are outdoors. You carry out appropriate risk assessments to minimise hazards to children and the inspector observed that the hose is adequately stored after use.

The inspector viewed your current public liability insurance certificate, which is on display. Overall, you are completing children's record of attendance consistently. This clearly documents children's times of arrival. However, occasionally, you overlook recording the time of departure for some children which would ensure the record is more robust. You have an appropriate written safeguarding policy and procedure in place to promote children's well-being. Since your inspection, you have completed a written self-evaluation. You have asked parents to complete questionnaires about your service, although you are waiting for the return of these currently. You seek children's ideas and suggestions through talking to them and observing their interests. This is helping you to plan for their learning and to provide appropriate toys and activities for their needs. You are currently completing a recognised childcare qualification. You have been gaining advice and guidance from the local authority in relation to activities and play experiences for children. These measures are improving children's learning and development experiences to support their progress.

On the day of the visit, the inspector observed age and developmentally suitable toys and activities for the children in your care. She viewed your planning file, which includes activities relating to themes, which you plan flexibly for so that you can take into account children's interests and ideas. You are identifying children's next steps in learning to support their individual progress. The inspector viewed the records of children's progress and you are completing these for all children across the areas of learning. These reflect the children's achievements and the progress they are making. You have developed your understanding of completing progress checks for two-year-old children and have relevant information and guidance to complete these.

You have retrospectively used a suitable format to complete this check for some older children in your care and reflect this has helped you to understand their level of development. You demonstrate a secure awareness of when to complete these checks in the future for children and are fully aware of the need to share this information with parents.

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

Nick Hudson
National Director, Early Education

Actions

Action	Due date	Closed date
ensure that the numbers of children cared for are within the usual ratios for childminders and that exceptions to this are only made when the individual needs of all children are being met	18/06/2014	
ensure that children are adequately supervised, with particular regard to supervising babies during meal times and in the garden	18/06/2014	
ensure that risk assessments are effective in identifying and minimising hazards to children, with particular regard to the trailing hosepipe in the garden	18/06/2014	
demonstrate that valid public liability insurance is in place	18/06/2014	24/06/2014
maintain consistently a daily record of the children being cared for on the premises, including their hours of attendance	18/06/2014	
ensure that the learning environment is planned appropriately to meet the individual needs, interests and stages of development of all children	30/06/2014	
plan activities consistently so that children are able to explore and learn through purposeful play	30/06/2014	
ensure that progress checks for two-year-old children are put in place to identify levels of development and to share information with parents	30/06/2014	
ensure that the observation, assessment and planning process is consistently in place for all children to identify their levels of development and next steps in learning	30/06/2014	
develop a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities as a childminder	30/06/2014	

through robust systems for self-evaluation to identify and address key weaknesses, priorities and targets.

ensure that public liability insurance is in place (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	18/06/2014	24/06/2015
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ensure that public liability insurance is in place (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	18/06/2014	24/06/2014
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maintain a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	18/06/2014	24/06/2014
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maintain a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	18/06/2014	24/06/2014
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