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Our Reference 114576

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Heather Allen, monitored your provision on 08/07/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 05/02/2014, we sent you a welfare requirements notice. 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.

The welfare requirements notice had a completion date of 6 May 2014 and required you to: ensure relevant ratio requirements are met and staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety; ensure risks are identified and minimised for outings, including consideration of adult to child ratios; ensure the premises, including furniture, equipment and toys, are fit for purpose and kept clean and safe for children to use, including complying with health and safety legislation; and ensure suitable hygienic arrangements are in place where children are provided with meals, snacks and drink.

You were also sent a notice to improve with a completion date of 2 May 2014. One action related to the learning and development requirements and asked you to improve the educational programme for babies and the youngest children so they are engaged in challenging and enjoyable experiences that meet their individual needs, interests and stage of development.

The other actions related to the safeguarding and welfare requirements and asked you to: ensure the space requirements are met at all times, including when older children are present; improve knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues, including the procedures to follow and agencies to be notified if there are concerns about children's safety and/or welfare or in the event of any allegation of serious harm or abuse; and keep an accurate record of the names of children being cared for and the hours they attend.

You were also sent a notice to improve asking you to complete actions in relation to

the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The actions asked you to maintain a record of children's attendance including the hours they attend; ensure the premises and equipment used for childcare are safe and suitable; ensure the behaviour of children over the age of eight years does not have a negative effect on the younger children; and ensure the needs of each child are met in relation to their care.

On 14 May 2014, an inspector carried out a monitoring visit to check the progress being made to meet the actions raised following inspection. We found that you had not complied with the actions required in the welfare requirements notice.

On 20 May 2014, we carried out a further monitoring visit to check what action you had taken. We found the back garden was not safe and secure and the house was dusty and unclean. We suspended your registration because we believed children might be at risk of harm. Suspension allowed time for you to take steps to reduce or eliminate the risk of harm to children.

On 21 May 2014, we carried out a monitoring visit. Following this visit, we lifted the suspension because you had taken appropriate action to deal with the matter that led to the suspension and we were satisfied that there was now no risk of harm to children as a result of this concern.

On 2 June 2014, we issued you with a welfare requirements notice requiring you to: improve knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues, including the procedures to follow and agencies to be notified if there are concerns about children's safety and/or welfare or in the event of any allegation of serious harm or abuse; keep an accurate record of the names of children being cared for and the hours they attend and the names of each child's key person; ensure suitable hygienic arrangements are in place where children are provided with meals, snacks and drinks; ensure risks are identified and minimised for outings, including consideration of adult to child ratios; ensure staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety, in particular ensure that children are always within sight or hearing and usually within sight and hearing; and ensure relevant ratio requirements are met.

On 2 June 2014, we also issued you with a notice to improve asking you to: supply a copy of the inspection report to all parents and/or carers of children attending on a regular basis; keep a written record of accidents or injuries and first aid treatment; ensure the space requirements are met at all times, including when older children are present and improve the educational programme for babies and the youngest children so they are engaged in challenging and enjoyable experiences that meet their individual needs, interests and stage of development.

On 20 June 2014 and 24 June 2014 we carried out further monitoring visits to check you were complying with the requirements of registration. We found that you had still not complied with all the actions raised.

On 2 July 2014, we issued you with a welfare requirements notice requiring you to: keep an accurate record of the names of children being cared for on the premises and the hours they attend and the names of each child's key person; improve knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues, including the procedures to follow and agencies to be notified if there are concerns about children's safety and/or welfare or in the event of any allegation of serious harm or abuse; ensure relevant ratio requirements are met; ensure risks are identified and minimised for outings, including giving consideration to adult to child ratios and obtaining written parental permission for children to take part in outings; keep accurate, clear and easily accessible information for each child cared for including: their full name and date of birth; name and address of every parent, carer or person who has parental responsibility for the child; which parent and/or carer the child normally lives with; and emergency contact details for parents and/or carers; and ensure that people whose suitability has not been checked, including through a criminal records check, do not have unsupervised contact with children being cared for.

On 2 July 2014, we also issued a notice to improve asking you to consider the individual needs, interests and stage of development for each child and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all areas of learning and development so that each child is seen to make progress towards the early learning goals.

On 8 July 2014, we carried out a monitoring visit. There were two children present in the early years age group. They behaved well and were settled and absorbed in a wide range of age-appropriate activities throughout the visit. We found that relevant records were in place. The record of attendance was up-to-date. Required information was in place for all children on roll, including written parental permission to take children on outings. You had carried out risk assessments for outings, including an outing to a Forest School where you had taken children earlier on the day of the visit. You confirmed you had taken relevant resources with you including children's details, a first aid kit and a mobile phone. Children were safeguarded because you demonstrated a knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues, including the procedures to follow if there are concerns about children's safety or welfare or in the event of an allegation. You confirmed that children were not left unsupervised with people whose suitability has not been checked.

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
keep accurate, clear and easily accessible information for each child cared for including: their full name and date of birth; name and address of every parent, carer or person who has parental responsibility for the child; which parent and/or carer the child normally lives with; and emergency contact details for parents and/or carers	07/07/2014	08/07/2014
keep accurate, clear and easily accessible records and retain them for a period of two years including: the name, home address and date of birth of each child who is looked after on the premises; and the name, home address and telephone number of their parent/guardian/carer (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	06/07/2014	08/07/2014
keep accurate, clear and easily accessible records and retain them for a period of two years including: the name, home address and date of birth of each child who is looked after on the premises; and the name, home address and telephone number of their parent/guardian/carer (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	06/07/2014	08/07/2014
consider the individual needs, interests and stage of development for each child and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all areas of learning and development so that each child is seen to make progress towards the early learning goals	06/07/2014	08/07/2014
keep an accurate record of the names of children being cared for on the premises and the hours they attend and the names of each child's key person	07/07/2014	08/07/2014
improve knowledge and understanding of	07/07/2014	08/07/2014

safeguarding issues, including the procedures to follow and agencies to be notified if there are concerns about children's safety and/or welfare or in the event of any allegation of serious harm or abuse

ensure relevant ratio requirements are met 07/07/2014 08/07/2014

ensure risks are identified and minimised for outings, including giving consideration to adult to child ratios and obtaining written parental permission for children to take part in outings 07/07/2014 08/07/2014

ensure that people whose suitability has not been checked, including through a criminal records check, do not have unsupervised contact with children being cared for 07/07/2014 08/07/2014