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Our Reference 312025

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Joan Isabel Madden, monitored your provision on 17/06/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 10/10/2013, 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 required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the following requirements: Staff qualifications, training, support and skills 3.18. The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notice sent to you on 22 November 2013. A previous monitoring visit, completed on 26 November 2013 found that you had taken appropriate action and were complying with the requirements of this notice.

During the third monitoring visit on 17 June 2014 the inspector reviewed the actions raised at the second monitoring on 4 March 2014. She discussed with you the steps you had taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. The inspector advised you that she had discussed your progress with your Early Years Quality Officer (EYQO) and learnt that you continue to receive regular visits from her and you are accessing training to support your professional development. Your EYQO feels that you are improving your practice at a steady pace and she will continue to support you in developing your practice. You acknowledged that as a result of the support you have received, you now have a better understanding of the learning and development requirements and feel more confident in implementing them.

The inspector observed you working with the children on a planned water activity in the conservatory. You had set out clear learning objectives for the children i.e. to understand and explore the concept of floating and sinking, capacity and measurement. You successfully guided the children into predicting whether the objects would sink or float by asking them would happen when they were put into the water. The children were encouraged to experiment with objects themselves.

You introduced them to vocabulary associated with the activity.

At an appropriate time you moved onto introducing the topic of capacity and measurement and the children were observed exploring how many times it took to fill a large jug from a much smaller container. You also promoted classifying and counting by guiding the children into grouping the penguins, sharks and ducks into their respective groups.

Due to the momentum of the activity and the varied and well matched challenges put to the children they remained engrossed in the activity and deployed different ways of learning throughout it, including thinking critically when they began testing their ideas on what made objects sink or float.

In addition to the observations the inspector made on the day of the visit, you were able to demonstrate through documentation, discussion and photographs that you have improved the delivery of the educational programme across the seven areas of learning thereby providing the children with improved opportunities to progress their learning and development.

The inspector found that you are now carrying out regular observations on the children and documenting these along side photographs. You are beginning to track their progress using 'Early years outcomes' as a reference to identify their levels of achievements and their next learning steps. You agreed with the inspector that you needed to develop this further. You now have an improved understanding of the children's levels of achievement, interests and learning styles in order to move them onto their next learning steps.

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
acquire the training, skills and knowledge including those relating to the learning and development requirements to ensure the daily experience of children is of good quality (Staff qualifications, training, support and skills 3.18)	28/05/2014	17/07/2014
(LD1) improve the delivery of the educational programmes by introducing a systematic approach to planning activities, to ensure there is breadth and depth across the seven areas of learning and next steps are clearly identified (The Learning and Development requirement 1.4)	28/05/2014	17/07/2014
develop the current assessment systems to understand the children's level of achievement, interests and learning styles, and to identify the next learning step for each child. (The Learning and Development requirement 2.3)	28/05/2014	17/07/2014