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Our Reference EY384618

## **Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate**

An Ofsted inspector, Julie Larner, monitored your provision on 21/03/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

## **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 07/11/2013, 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.

During the monitoring visit the inspector discussed with you the steps taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. At the inspection there were no minded children present due to parents not needing to use your service at short notice. The inspector spoke to you and looked at some of the written records that you hold on children you care for. The inspector also looked at records of risk assessments, your certificate for registration and your first aid certificate. The inspector observed the organisation and safety of the areas you use for childminding and talked to you about self-evaluation. The inspector spoke to you about any support you have received from representatives from the local authority. You said that you had tried to speak to someone from the local authority by phoning them twice, but that they had not contacted you back.

Whilst there were no children present during the inspection, the inspector found that you had adequately organised the areas that you use for childminding which better promotes children's learning and welfare. You have removed items at the bottom of the stairs and cleared away boxes under chairs in the living room. A pram and bike, which previously blocked the exit to the back garden, have both been removed. A large pile of books and papers that were perched on the side of a high shelving unit have been removed and the boxes and the exercise stepper which prevented a clear path through to the kitchen have been cleared away. The electrical cables that were in a pile beside the television have now been removed. All of these steps that have been taken to identify and remove hazards ensure that children's safety is adequately protected.

The organisation of the porch is greatly improved to ensure that children would be

able to quickly leave the premises in the event of an emergency. You explained that when you are looking after children shoes are put in a box out of the way, cleaning materials, which were located on the floor in the bathroom, are moved out of reach of children and that the area around the parrot's cage is cleaned up. You told us that you would ensure that the premises would continue to be adequately organised and remain safe by doing checks on a daily basis before children arrive and you have devised a cleaning rota which is consistently used. You now use a written risk assessment to make sure that all hazards to children are minimised which ensures that children remain safe in your care. Toys and resources are now rotated and organised according to children's developmental stages which results in there being more space available for children to use in your premises.

The certificate of registration and your first aid certificate are now clearly displayed in your porch and you told us that these would be staying up in this area and would not be taken down. Records relating to children's details have now been organised in folders and you told us that you would be putting the records back to make sure that you could find them when needed. You recognised that this improves the care of the children by being able to quickly and easily access any emergency details that may be needed to safeguard children's welfare. You now have written consents in place from parents when their children will be cared for by your assistant which further improves parent's involvement in how your setting operates and ensures they are consistently informed about the care of their child.

Although you stated that you have completed a written self-evaluation document you said that this was not available for us to see during the visit due to problems with your printer. However, you explained how you evaluate your practice, for example, by adding hazards to the risk assessment and showing how you have minimised them to safeguard children, and by introducing a cleaning rota to ensure that the premises are maintained adequately to protect children's safety and health. Parents are able to make comments about any areas of your practice that they feel could be improved which you then act upon to make changes which benefit the children in your care. You told us that after your previous inspection you had a meeting with the parents to inform them about the issues that had been raised. You told us that since the meeting parents are now involved in your self-evaluation processes and that this has benefitted the care of the children. Parents contribute their ideas about things they notice in your setting that they feel could be improved and also share information about their children's current interests. You then use this information to plan a suitable range of activities and experiences that match each child's changing interests and also act on any other suggestions they put forward.

You also told us that you have reduced the number of younger children you care for due to your assistant's availability to help you care for younger children and your pregnancy.

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
assess the risk to children's safety and identify how the risk will be removed or minimised; this is with particular regard to the piles of car seats, clothes and children's toys at the bottom of the stairs, the suitcase on a stool at the side of the room, household items on the settee, shoes and wellington boots near the door protruding into the room, cables for electrical equipment (see letter)	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
ensure that the certificate of registration is displayed	10/03/2014	21/02/2014
ensure that records are easily accessible and available for inspection; this is with particular regard to your current first aid certificate, records for the children and evidence of permission from parents for children to be left in the sole care of your assistant	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
ensure that premises and equipment used for the purpose of childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
ensure that premises and equipment used for the purpose of childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
ensure the certificate of registration is displayed in the premises on which childcare is provided (compulsory part of	10/03/2014	21/03/2014

the Childcare Register)

ensure the certificate of registration is displayed in the premises on which childcare is provided (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
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ensure the premises are organised in a way that meets the needs of the children	10/03/2014	21/03/2014
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