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Our Reference EY428260

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Elizabeth Grocott, monitored your provision on 28/10/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 28/03/2014, 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.

Following your inspection and subsequent monitoring visit you were set welfare requirement notices that required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the following requirements, staff: child ratios, child supervision and risk assessment. The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notices sent to you on 16 July 2014 and 4 August 2014.

I monitored your notices to improve on 28 October 2014. During the monitoring visit I discussed the steps you had taken to address the actions raised and looked at children's developmental records. I enquired whether you had received any visits from the early years officer and was informed that you have had three support visits. The early years officer visited the setting during my visit and we discussed the plan that is in place to help you improve.

During the visit I looked at some documents and also chatted with children. I found that you were working well with the early years officer and you felt that you had improved since your last visit. You are now seeking information from parents about what their children enjoy at home and getting ideas about how you can incorporate this into planning for them, although at present this isn't happening. This means you are beginning to work in partnership with parents and share their children's learning. You showed me your toy shed where you store a lot of your resources. These have been sorted and put into storage boxes and labelled so they are more accessible. Children are now more easily able to select what they want to play with, giving them freedom of choice.

You are attending some childminder sessions at a local children centre, where you can pick up ideas and good practice from other childminders. Children were busy throughout the visit, searching for bugs in the outdoor area and studying them through magnifying glasses. They enjoyed a healthy snack of fruit and spent some time on the climbing frame. You have risk assessed your property in order to ensure that children are kept safe. You reminded the children to fasten their coats when climbing, so they couldn't catch on the equipment. This helps children to have an understanding of how to keep themselves safe. The gate in the garden now has two locks to ensure people cannot enter from the outside without your knowledge, further protecting children.

You are currently being supported by another childminder who is giving you some ideas about observation and assessment. You are now making your own written observations of children, but they are not yet sufficiently robust. At the time of this visit observations and assessments are not accurate enough to clearly demonstrate where children's learning is up to in each area. The next steps you have planned for them are not necessarily accurate to their individual needs, based on what you know about them and the information provided by parents. You do not at this time have a secure enough understanding of how the observation, assessment and planning cycle works. This means that there may be gaps in children's learning which go unnoticed; equally you may not be challenging them sufficiently. Either way it means children may not be making as much progress as they could. You told me you are going to attend some training to help with this during November.

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

Nick Hudson
National Director, Early Education

Actions

Action	Due date	Closed date
comply with the statutory adult to child ratios required in the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure each child is always provided with sufficient attention to meet their needs	24/06/2014	31/07/2014
ensure that written permission is obtained from parents to confirm that their child can take part in outings	24/06/2014	31/07/2014
increase understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure that children learn and develop through good quality teaching	26/08/2014	31/07/2014
develop a robust system for observation and assessment, including children's starting points and the progress check for children aged two, to identify next steps that fully support and extend children's learning across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage	22/07/2014	22/08/2014
enable a regular two-way flow of information with parents and/or carers, to ensure information about children's progress is shared	22/07/2014	31/07/2014
review health and safety procedures to ensure that all risks and hazards are identified and appropriately dealt with in order to maintain children's safety.	15/07/2014	31/07/2014
ensure that records are easily accessible and available at the request of Ofsted including details of any incidents surrounding the care and welfare of children	30/07/2014	22/08/2014
ensure that a daily record is kept of the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance	30/07/2014	22/08/2014
ensure that children are adequately	05/08/2014	22/08/2014

supervised and always within sight or hearing

ensure the behaviour management policy and procedures are implemented in accordance with children's needs and avoid the use or threat of any punishment which could adversely affect a child's well-being	30/07/2014	22/08/2014
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ensure children are adequately supervised and always within sight or hearing	05/08/2014	22/08/2014
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ensure risks or hazards arising for the children are assessed and identify the steps to be taken to remove, minimise and manage those risks and hazards, particularly regarding school drop offs and collections	05/08/2014	22/08/2014
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ensure all reasonable steps are taken to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises, and have an agreed procedure for checking the identity of visitors	05/08/2014	22/08/2014
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ensure that confidential records are kept securely and are accessible and available to those who have a right or professional need to view them	27/06/2014	24/06/2014
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increase understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure that children learn and develop through good quality teaching. Children must have access to suitable range of accessible and appropriate resources to maintain their interests	28/03/2014	24/06/2014
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develop a robust system for observation and assessment, including children's starting points and the progress check for children aged two, to identify next steps that fully support and extend children's learning across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage	25/04/2014	24/06/2014
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enable a regular two-way flow of information with parents and/or carers, to	25/04/2014	24/06/2014
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ensure information about children's progress is shared

review health and safety procedures to ensure that all risks and hazards are identified and appropriately dealt with in order to maintain children's safety.	28/03/2014	24/06/2014
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safeguard children effectively by more vigilant supervision that ensures they are always within sight and hearing.	30/05/2014	24/06/2014
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ensure you care for a maximum of six children under the age of eight at any one time. Of these six children, a maximum of three children may be young children and there should only be one child under the age of one	19/07/2014	07/08/2014
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use information about children's individual needs, interests, and stages of development to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience in all of the areas of learning and development	09/12/2014	
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ensure that children aged two years have a progress check which is shared with parents or carers	09/12/2014	
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implement a robust system for observation and assessment, to identify next steps that fully support and extend children's learning across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage.	09/12/2014	
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