

Compliance action taken for childcare provision

EY396540/C295006

Date: 24/10/2016

Summary of outcome

On 13 September 2016 we received a notification from the provider that raised concerns that two children had been left behind by staff while being collected from school. These children then left the school grounds unsupervised and were found by a member of the public some minutes later. By notifying Ofsted the provider met their legal responsibility as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements relation go 'suitable people'. In particular, to notify Ofsted particulars of any significant event which is likely to affect the suitability of the early years provider or any person who cares for, or who is in regular contact with children.

We needed to investigate this concern to see whether the setting was meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements relating to 'Staff:child ratios'. In particular that 'staffing arrangements must meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety. Providers must ensure that children are adequately supervised and decide how to deploy staff to ensure children's needs are met...Children must usually be within sight and hearing of staff and always within sight or hearing,'

and

'Safety' that 'providers must only release children into the care of individuals who have been notified to the provider by the parent, and must ensure that children do not leave the premises unsupervised,'

and

'Risk assessment' that 'providers must ensure that they take all reasonable steps to ensure staff and children in their care are not exposed to risks and must be able to demonstrate how they are managing risks,'

and

'Outings' that 'children must be kept safe while on outings. Providers must assess the risks or hazards which may arise for the children, and must identify the steps to be taken to remove, minimise and manage those risks and hazards. The assessment must include consideration of adult to child

ratios.'

We do not investigate to prove or disprove a complaint but we look into the information we receive to see if the provider is meeting all legal requirements. We carried out an unannounced visit to the premises to discuss the incident and to consider the detailed information that they had provided. We found that there had been a serious failure in collection procedures. However, the provider had taken immediate and effective steps in place to investigate what happened, to safeguard children during the investigation and to improve staffing and supervision arrangements to address the failures. Updated and improved collection procedures are now in place and all staff have been retrained in procedures to ensure children are safely collected from school. Risk assessments were updated and take into account improved procedures for supervising children on school runs. We concluded that the provider has taken sufficient action to meet requirements. The provider remains registered with Ofsted.

Publication of compliance action

We aim to ensure that the welfare of children and young people is protected in the services we regulate. The Childcare Act 2006 and accompanying regulations set out our responsibilities to regulate childminders and childcare providers. This includes the enforcement powers we have in relation to those registered providers who do not comply with the requirements for registration.

We publish details of any actions we take, or the childminder or childcare provider takes to bring about compliance with requirements on our website for a period of five years commencing on the date we complete our investigation.

For further information please read the *Early years compliance handbook* which can be found here at www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-provider-non-compliance-action-by-ofsted .