

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

Telephone: 0300 123 1231
Fax: 0300 123 3159
Minicom: 0161 618 8524
Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
Web: www.ofsted.gov.uk



Our Reference 501893

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Diane Turner, monitored your provision on 29/09/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 08/07/2014, 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.

During the monitoring visit the inspector discussed with you the steps that you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She discussed your understanding of child protection and arrangements for ensuring children are adequately protected when playing outside in strong sunlight. The inspector discussed the planning of activities to ensure these meet children's individual learning needs and your arrangements for monitoring and assessing children's developmental progress from the time they enter your care. She discussed your partnership working with parents and other providers and how information is exchanged to support consistency of learning for children. The inspector also discussed the organisation of the premises and the arrangements for children to access outdoor play on a daily basis and in a range of weather conditions. The inspector also viewed your safeguarding policy and a sample of your planning documents and children's progress records. She also observed your engagement with children. You have accessed guidance and support from the local authority.

The inspector found that you have devised a clear action plan detailing the steps you have taken to address the issues raised. This has enabled you to accurately prioritise the areas for improvement identified at your last inspection and to plan for ongoing improvement.

You have attended training in safeguarding children and as a result, you are now more confident in your knowledge and understanding of the possible indicators of abuse or neglect and the correct procedures to follow, should you have a concern about a child's welfare. This information has been shared with your assistant. This means that you both have a better understanding of protecting children in your care.

You discussed how you now ensure sun cream is applied to children before they go out in strong sunlight and that you have purchased spare hats for children to wear at this time, if parents forget to provide such items. You discussed how you have also purchased a parasol so children can play in a shaded area. This means children's good health, safety and well-being are promoted more effectively.

The arrangements for monitoring children's progress in their learning and development have been reviewed. You have obtained an All about me form, which parents will be given a copy of so they can record what they know about their child's development in the prime areas of learning when their child starts in your care. You discussed how you will use this information along with your own observations and any information from other providers to establish children's starting points in their learning. Your ongoing assessment of children's learning now includes a termly summary of their developmental progress. You are beginning to use this information to plan for the next steps in children's learning. You also discussed how you plan to introduce a tracking sheet to plot children's overall progress in all areas of learning so that you can see at a glance where children may be above or below the expected levels typical for their age, in order to provide further support or challenge. In addition, you are now sharing children's learning records with parents on a regular basis. As a result, the outcomes for children's learning are improving and parents are beginning to play a more active part in the assessment process and are better informed of their child's developmental progress.

You discussed how you have reviewed your arrangements for working in partnership with providers of other early years settings children may also attend and have plans in place to improve communication and sharing of information about children's care and learning across settings in the future. This will enable you to foster a more effective shared approach to supporting children's care and learning across provisions.

You have reviewed the organisation of the areas used for childminding purposes and have purchased a unit that is at children's height to store toys and resources in boxes. This includes those for creative activities, such as pens and crayons for drawing. As a result, children can freely access toys of their choice and these can be put away when they have finished playing with them. This means potential tripping hazards are minimised as the floor is no longer cluttered and children have more space to move around safely. You discussed how you intend to label the boxes with a picture and text to show the contents, to further aid children in making choices.

You discussed how you have asked parents to supply their children with appropriate clothing so children can play safely outdoors in a range of weather conditions on a

daily basis. This means children's health and well-being is promoted more effectively as they have more frequent access to fresh air and physical exercise.

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
improve knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures and ensure these are rigorously implemented in order to keep children safe from harm	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
ensure adequate risk assessments are carried out and used to protect children from harm, for example, ensuring adequate protection for children when playing outside in strong sunlight	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
improve observation and assessments in order to identify next steps. Use this information to ensure that planning is sharply focussed and targeted at meeting the individual needs of all children and that challenging and stimulating experiences are offered to fully develop children's potential	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
ensure progress of all children is closely monitored so that any gaps in learning are quickly identified and steps are taken to support children to move on to the next stage in their learning	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
develop effective partnerships with parents and other providers to facilitate the exchange of information about children's starting points, progress and development and to support consistency of learning	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
ensure that the premises and equipment are organised to enable children to remain safe and that there is sufficient space for children to make choices and move around freely	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
ensure children are able to access the outdoor provision safely, on a daily basis and in a range of weather conditions.	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm (compulsory part	09/09/2014	09/09/2014

of the Childcare Register)

ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
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ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
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ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	09/09/2014	09/09/2014
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