

Compliance action taken for childcare provision

155383/C218572

Date: 27/01/2015

Summary of outcome

We received information on 1 July 2014 from another agency which raised concerns regarding the safeguarding practice and policy of the provider. We carried out an unannounced visit on 18 July 2014 to check whether the provider was meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements as set out in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

We found that the provider did not have an up to date and fully effective policy, and procedures, to safeguard children that are in line with the guidance and procedures of their Local Safeguarding Children Board and that the action to be taken if an allegation is made against a member of staff was not known or understood by everyone connected with the setting. The provider did not have an effective way to build up a picture of signs of possible abuse or neglect of children and had failed to notify concerns about children's safety or welfare to the agencies with statutory responsibilities without delay. We also found that training for staff in safeguarding practice and policy, including for the practitioners with lead responsibility for safeguarding, was inadequate.

Following the visit and receipt of further information, on 21 July 2014 we suspended the providers registration. Suspension allows time for the circumstances to be investigated and for steps to be taken to reduce or eliminate the risk of harm.

We issued the provider with a welfare requirements notice requiring the provider to:

ensure that they have an up to date and fully effective policy, and procedures, to safeguard children that are in line with the guidance and procedures of their Local Safeguarding Children Board. This must include an explanation of the action to be taken if an allegation is made against a

member of staff that is known and understood by everyone including their HR personnel;

ensure that their procedures for safeguarding include an effective way to build up a picture of signs of possible abuse or neglect of children;

ensure any concerns about children's safety or welfare is notified to the agencies with statutory responsibilities without delay. This means the local children's social care services and, in emergencies, the police;

ensure that the practitioners designated to take the lead in safeguarding have attended a child protection course that develops their knowledge and understanding to enable them to identify, understand and respond appropriately to signs of possible abuse and neglect and also enables them to provide support, advice and guidance to other staff;

ensure that they have trained all staff to understand their safeguarding policy and procedures and ensure that all staff have up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues; and,

ensure that training they provide enables staff to identify signs of possible abuse and neglect at the earliest opportunity, and develops their knowledge and understanding to ensure they can respond in a timely and appropriate way.

It is an offence not to comply with a welfare requirements notice.

We lifted the suspension on 8 August 2014 because the provider took appropriate action to deal with the matters that led to the suspension and we are satisfied that there is now no risk of harm to children as a result of these matters.

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 [Ofsted's Enforcement Policy](#).