

Compliance action taken for childcare provision

EY461426/C314776

Date: 13/06/2017

Summary of outcome

On 15 May the childminder notified Ofsted of an event likely to affect the suitability of an individual or affect the smooth running of the setting. The notification means that the childminder has met her legal responsibility as set out in the early years foundation stage (EYFS) welfare requirements. We were satisfied that the childminder ensures the suitability of those in regular contact with children and would reduce the likelihood of a similar event reoccurring. However, the childminder had a poor understanding of wider safeguarding issues. The policies omitted reporting procedures in the event of an allegation against a member of staff or household member. Following our visit we sent the childminder a notice to improve that asked her to:

- ensure you have and implement a safeguarding policy and procedures that are in line with the guidance of your Local Safeguarding Children Board, to include an explanation of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or a household member.
- ensure you and any staff you employ understand the 'Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2015', in order that you can identify any concerns about children's safety and welfare and notify appropriate agencies without delay.
- ensure you train all staff to understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, and that all staff have up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues.

We visited the childminder and were satisfied that she had updated her safeguarding knowledge, and her policies. However, there was a lack of organisation and cleanliness of the premises, specifically the kitchen. This compromised children's safety.

Following our visit we sent the childminder a notice to improve that asked her to: ensure there are suitable facilities for the hygienic preparation of food for children, by making sure your kitchen is clean; and, ensure your premises,

including overall floor space are fit for purpose, by making sure resources are organised to prevent trip hazards for children.

On 23 July 2017 the childminder notified Ofsted that a child in her care had an unexplained injury. The notification means that the childminder has met their legal responsibility as set out in the EYFS. We visited the childminder and explored whether she was meeting the requirements of the EYFS relating to 'staff: child ratios'. In particular the requirement that states: children must usually be within sight and hearing of staff and always within sight or hearing. On a recent outing, the childminder did not supervise children appropriately. This compromised children's safety. The childminder failed to notify local child protection agencies of the injury. We found the premises were clean and organised. However, we found loose wiring in the play room. This could be dangerous for children. The childminder was not effectively supporting children's speech development, and her behaviour management procedures were inappropriate. This affects the quality of learning experiences for children.

Following our visit, we served a welfare requirement notice (WRN) on the childminder that required her to:

- ensure children are usually within sight and hearing of staff and always within sight and hearing, this includes when you take children on outings
- ensure that you notify local child protection agencies of any serious accident or injury to any child while in your care, and act on any advice from those agencies
- update your knowledge and skills to ensure you manage children's behaviour in an appropriate way
- ensure that children in your care are not exposed to risks and demonstrate how you are managing risks, in this case by securing loose wires
- access appropriate training and professional development opportunities to ensure you offer quality learning and development experiences for children that continually improves, in this case by updating your knowledge of supporting children with speech difficulties.

It is an offence for a person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a WRN. Failure to comply may result in a prosecution.

The childminder complied with the WRN by reviewing procedures and practices accordingly and she sought to update her knowledge as required.

On 29 August 2017, we received a notification from an outside agency that raised concerns about children's safety following an incident that occurred on the childminder's premises. We visited to see whether the childminder was meeting the requirements of the EYFS relating to 'child protection'. In particular, the requirement that states providers must have and implement a

policy, and procedures, to safeguard children.

We were satisfied that the childminder acted to keep children safe, but she failed to inform Ofsted of the incident. On this occasion we issued a warning letter to the childminder as we believed she had a reasonable excuse for not informing us.

The childminder 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 .