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01/10/2009

Little Acorns
Staffordshire County Council,
Corbett C E Primary School
Six Ashes Road, Bobbington
STOURBRIDGE
West Midlands
DY7 5DU

Our Reference EY378325

Dear Mrs Jennifer Ann Vyse

Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Kamaljit Kaur Jandu, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 21/09/2009. This visit follows on from your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of the visit

As a result of our inspection on 20/05/2009, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The welfare requirement notice required you to implement an effective safeguarding policy which includes the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff and ensure that all members of staff understand the safeguarding policy and procedure.

In addition you were sent a notice to improve that required you to: ensure that written permission is requested for all children to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment; ensure all children are supported in their progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning by making systematic observations and assessments and using these to plan relevant and motivating experiences for each child; improve staff's knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage so that they provide children with an educational programme that will enable them to make progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning; make the following information available to parents: information about the activities that children will undertake and copies of the written statements of safeguarding procedures and complaints procedure; keep written records of all medication administered to children and obtain prior written permission for each and every medicine from parents before any medication is given; ensure that children's behaviour is managed effectively and in a manner appropriate for their stage of development and their particular individual



needs; make sure that a risk assessment is in place which identifies aspects of the environment that need to be checked on regular basis and maintain a record of these particular aspects and when and by whom they have been checked; plan and organise systems to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs including a balance of adult-led and freely-chosen or child-initiated activities delivered through indoor and outdoor play and systems to evaluate and monitor the strengths and weaknesses of the provision and to develop effective partnership with parents and engage with and provide the following information to parents relating to staffing, daily routines and the complaints procedure.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that at this time the setting is making satisfactory improvement overall.

Overall effectiveness of the improvement and outcomes for children

The setting has made satisfactory progress towards the actions set out on the welfare requirement notice. The safeguarding children policy has been reviewed and now sets out clear procedures to be followed in the event of any allegations made against staff and also includes contact numbers to report any concerns. Staff are able to explain procedures and are aware of record forms and how to access the policy and procedures. A training course has been arranged for the lead staff member to attend in the autumn.

The setting has made satisfactory progress towards the actions set out in the notice to improve and in some areas good progress has been made. For example, a 'Request to administer medication form' has been incorporated into their procedures for administering medication and all parents have signed the registration forms to give their permission for the seeking of any emergency treatment or advice for their children. Individual medication forms are used for each child and stored confidentially.

Work is underway to improve systems for making observations and assessments on the children to enable them to be supported in their progress towards the early learning goals. The deputy has attended training on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), this has enhanced her skills and knowledge. The notice board in the nursery has been effectively reorganised and now shows information for parents including the food their children are offered, activities linked to the EYFS, the staff who work with their children and the complaints policy. In addition, notices direct parents to the policies, procedures and planning files. These changes have improved the information provided for parents and experiences for children.

The behaviour management policy is focussed on praise and reinforcement of positive behaviour. Staff are expected to be good role models and ensure children are applauded and wear stickers to reward their achievements. A "Star of the day" system is to be implemented in order to praise and value children. Four staff

members are to attend a behaviour management training course in December. Risk assessments are displayed and all areas are checked each day and the record is signed by the staff member responsible for making the checks. There is still work to be done to establish a system to undertake regular reviews of the risk assessment record.

Overall the progress made is satisfactory. The next visit will be a monitoring visit.

Next steps

Having considered all the evidence the inspector is of the opinion that at this time:

- The setting has made satisfactory progress in addressing the points for improvement. The next visit will be a further monitoring visit.

I hope that you have found the visit helpful in promoting improvement in your setting. If you have any further queries please contact us on the number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Sheila Brown HMI
National Director, Inspection Delivery