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28/05/2010

Sugar Plum Day Nursery
255 West Green Road
Tottenham
N15 5EG

Our Reference 140463

Dear Ms Norma Taylor

Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Julie Whitelaw, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 05/05/2010. 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 08/01/2010, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The notice required you to keep a record of risk assessments clearly stating when it was carried out and by whom and ensure these are reviewed regularly.

In addition you were given several actions to improve. You were asked to take steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children by ensuring that necessary information is obtained from parents in advance of a child being admitted to the provision, and ensure it is available to staff at all times. You were also asked to take necessary steps to safeguard children by monitoring unknown adults in the building. You were asked to ensure staff manage children's behaviour effectively and in a manner appropriate for their stage of development and particular needs. Another action was to meet the requirements for adult: child ratios as set out in Appendix 2. You were asked to ensure that records are kept of the information that has been used to assess suitability to demonstrate to Ofsted that checks have been done. You were also asked to introduce effective systems to ensure close working partnerships between early years practitioners, parents and other agencies to identify and meet the needs of all children. You were required to maintain a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises, and their hours of attendance and to ensure all records are easily accessible and available for inspection by Ofsted. The welfare requirement notice and actions were to be met on or before the 4 February 2010.

Two additional actions were given that you are required to meet by 5 March 2010.

One was to implement effective planning and organisational systems to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs. The other was to undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 5 February 2010. Although some of the actions had been met the progress you have made was judged as inadequate. The original welfare requirement notice was not met and was reissued. Two actions previously given were escalated to welfare requirement notices. These were to, take steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children by ensuring that necessary information is obtained from parents in advance of a child being admitted to the provision, and is available to staff at all times and maintain a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises, and their hours of attendance. The new due date for these three welfare requirement notice was set as 10 February 2010. Due to a safety issue a new action was given. You were asked to take all reasonable steps to ensure that hazards to children - both indoors and outdoors - are kept to a minimum. The due date for this action to be taken is 16 February 2010. Two previous actions given were, to introduce effective systems to ensure close working partnerships between early years practitioners, parents and other agencies to identify and meet the needs of all children and ensure staff manage children's behaviour effectively and in a manner appropriate for their stage of development and particular needs. These were not met so have been reissued with a new due date of 5 March 2010 to allow time for staff to update their knowledge by attending the planned training.

A monitoring visit was carried out on the 15 February 2010 to see if the three welfare requirement notices with the due date of the 10 February 2010 had been met. Progress was judged as satisfactory as the welfare requirement notices were met. A another visit was planned to monitor the remaining actions as above.

The next monitoring visit was carried out on 5 May 2010. Although one of the actions in relation to managing children's behaviour had been met your were judged as inadequate. This is because you had not met the other four actions. Risk assessments are now carried out before children arrive and the indoor environment is now safe. However, on the day of the visit the outside play area was not secure. A new action was set with a due date of 6 May 2010. This was to ensure that the outdoors is safe and secure so that children do not leave the premises unsupervised and to prevent intruders entering the premises. Three previous actions given were to; implement effective systems to ensure close working partnerships between early years practitioners, parents and other agencies to identify and meet the needs of all children, implement effective planning and organisational systems to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development

experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs and undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs. These were not met, therefore have been reissued with a new due date of 5 August 2010 to allow more time for staff to improve their knowledge and implement the actions fully.

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

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure that the outdoors is safe and secure so that children do not leave the premises unsupervised and to prevent intruders entering the premises (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 06/05/2010
- implement effective systems to ensure close working partnerships between early years practitioners, parents and other agencies to identify and meet the needs of all children (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 22/07/2010
- implement effective planning and organisational systems to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs (Organisation) 22/07/2010
- undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs (Organisation). 22/07/2010

Overall effectiveness of the improvement and outcomes for children

Overall inadequate progress has been made to address the actions that were set. On the day of the visit the outside play area was not secure, children could potentially leave at one end of this area or intruders could enter the premises. You have had support from the local authority to develop your knowledge and understanding of observation, assessment and planning and have begun to collate children's work, annotate photographic evidence of what children can do and complete basic observations. However, observation and assessment is not done frequently enough to ensure children make good progress. There is no clear overview of how children are progressing in all areas of learning towards the early learning goals. Planning is not in place for all the children and does not take account of their interests.

A newsletter for parents has been introduced. This details the topic that is being covered at the setting and encourages parents to become involved in their child's learning, for example, by supporting their child to bring in photos of when they were babies. An open evening has been planned during May when you will share children's progress, ask parents to contribute to their children's profiles and complete questionnaires about the setting. However inadequate progress has been made in

this area as this has not yet taken place and partnership working was highlighted as a weakness in January 2010.

Staff have attended behaviour management training and now use effective strategies to manage children's behaviour. This has improved children's behaviour and promoted their self-esteem.

A further monitoring visit will be carried out to check if the new action and the re-issued actions have been met and to assess if the progress made has been sustained.

Next steps

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

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

If you have any further queries please contact us on the number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Brown".

Sheila Brown HMI
National Director, Inspection Delivery