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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 26/11/2010. 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 they were carried out and by whom and to ensure they 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 were 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 had 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 was 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 therefore they were 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 assess whether 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. 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 you 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 actions were not met, therefore they were reissued with a new due date of 22 July 2010 to allow more time for staff to improve their knowledge and implement the actions fully.

A further monitoring visit was carried out on 23 July 2010. Two of the actions were met. These were with regard to ensuring that the outdoors is safe and secure and to develop close partnerships with others to ensure children's individual needs are met. However, you had not met the other two actions that were set. The two actions not met were 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 and undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs. These were reissued with a new due date of 3 September 2010. This was to allow more time for all staff to improve their knowledge of observation and planning and implement the actions for all children and to check whether the progress which had been made was maintained.

The next monitoring visit was carried out on 21 September 2010. It was found that the two remaining actions with regard to observations and planning had not been fully met. The setting are still working towards meeting these actions. Therefore these actions will be reissued with a later due date to allow more time for all staff to further develop their knowledge of observation and planning and to implement effective systems to ensure these actions are met.

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 since the last visit on the 21 September 2010 and the monitoring visit on 26 November 2010. They have taken appropriate steps to address the improvements required. They have worked with the local authority and another setting in the area to improve their knowledge and share ideas. There are now effective systems in place to ensure that all children are challenged and enjoy their time at the nursery. Staff use a variety of methods to observe children each day. They also collate evidence such as, paintings, drawings, examples of early writing and photos of what children do and use this information to assess what stage they are at in their learning. Staff work together to complete long, medium and short term planning to ensure that children's individual learning needs are met. Planning is based on the children's interests. The result is that children have fun, engage in activities and make progress in their learning. The previous progress made has been maintained.

Next steps

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

- The setting has made satisfactory improvement. The next visit will be a full inspection.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.P. Gregory". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Gregory HMI
National Director, Inspection Delivery