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Dear Sir/Madam

Ofsted survey inspection programme – narrowing the gap in literacy and Numeracy - 140780

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation during my visit on 28 January 2009 to look at work in literacy and numeracy.

As outlined in the initial letter, the visit had a particular focus on how well you meet the needs of all children in relation to their literacy and numeracy, with particular consideration to those at risk of not reaching their full potential. The visit also evaluated the level of expertise to support children learning English as an additional language (EAL).

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing settings but these will not be identified in the main text. All feedback letters will be published on the Ofsted website.

The evidence used to inform the judgements made included interviews with you, scrutiny of relevant documentation, analysis of children's work and observation of children's play.

The overall effectiveness of provision for literacy and numeracy was judged to be outstanding.

Learning and development

The quality of learning and development is outstanding.

- Children have excellent relationships with you and enjoy the high level of individual time and attention they receive within their daily routine. Your enthusiastic and exciting approach to learning is infectious and enables children to participate in all activities.

- Children are well nourished and ready to learn.
- Children make quick progress towards the early learning goals in relation to their starting points.
- You use homemade props and everyday objects to create resources for children to widen their experiences, for example, laminated letter cards and socks for sorting into pairs.

Leadership and management of literacy and numeracy

The quality of leadership and management is outstanding.

- You maintain highly effective relationships with parents to support each child. However, you have not developed systems to share information with practitioners in the other settings children attend.
- You evaluate your provision effectively taking into account the views of children and advice from the local authority. You reflect on your practice and continually seek to improve outcomes for children.
- Your excellent knowledge of the early learning goals for literacy and numeracy enables you to assess children's capabilities accurately and plan for their next steps in learning.

English as an additional language

- You have undertaken training to assist you in supporting children who are learning English as an additional language.

How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?

Inclusion in literacy and numeracy is outstanding.

- You plan and provide an interesting, varied and fun range of activities which you skilfully adapt to meet the needs of the individual children.
- Individual children's needs are known through the effective systems in place for gathering information about their starting points, observing them and identifying their next steps in learning.

Areas for development, which we discussed, included:

- developing closer links with the practitioners in the other settings children attend.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop literacy and numeracy in your setting.

As was explained in the previous letter, a copy of this letter will be sent to your local authority and will be published on the Ofsted website. It will also be available to the inspector for your next inspection.

Yours sincerely
Judith Butler **Inspector**