

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

Telephone: 0300 123 1231
Fax: 0300 123 3159
Minicom: 0161 618 8524
Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
Web: www.ofsted.gov.uk



Looby Lou's Too
1586/1585 Bristol Road South
Longbridge
Birmingham
West Midlands
B45 9UA

Our Reference EY427661

Dear Mrs Jacqueline Mary Cupples

Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Kamaljit Kaur Jandu, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 06/03/2012. 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 14/12/2011, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The notice required you to: take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This particularly refers to ensuring that children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised and or access unsafe areas, provide a first aid box with appropriate contents to meet the needs of children, take reasonable steps to ensure that hazards to children - both indoors and outdoors - are kept to a minimum. This relates, for example, to the risks posed by hot radiators, electrical equipment that has not been safety tested, toys with small parts and the metal fire escape, ensure that indoor and outdoor spaces are safe and suitable for their purpose. This relates, for example, to ensuring that the premises are clean, adequately ventilated, well lit, maintained at a comfortable temperature and that there are suitable hygienic nappy changing facilities, take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises in the event of a fire and have a clearly defined procedure for the emergency evacuation of the premises. You were also required to: maintain a daily record of the hours of attendance of children looked after on the premises, maintain all policies and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the setting and to meet the needs of children and ensure that they are accessible and available for inspection by Ofsted, devise and implement an effective safeguarding policy and procedure, assign each child a key person in order to meet the needs of each child and ensure that there is a named deputy who is able to take charge in the absence of the manager.

Further actions were issued regarding the provision of information for parents in respect of the provider's policies and procedures; ensure that there is an effective policy about ensuring equality of opportunities and for supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities; ensure that there is a balance of adult-led and freely-chosen or child-initiated activities, delivered through indoor and outdoor play, and 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

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

Satisfactory progress has been made to ensure that actions identified on the welfare requirement notice have been addressed to meet the Early Years Foundation Stage welfare requirements and Regulations. Sufficient steps have been taken to ensure that significant risks to children's safety have been minimised and adequately addressed to ensure that children are kept safe from harm. This includes repairs to the fire escape and the rehearsal of the appropriate evacuation procedure, to doors leading to the entrance area and to the nappy changing facility. The nappy changing facility has been moved to the correct location which allows staff to directly access hand washing basins to maintain hygiene regimes during that process.

The building has been cleaned and areas of concern previously identified where mould, mildew and cobwebs were seen have been thoroughly cleaned. The heating has been repaired by bleeding the radiators, which has resulted in a warmer environment on the ground floor. This means that the building has been aired sufficiently to ensure the environment is now adequately improved to ensure children's health and well-being is maintained. Since the inspection, when child care was predominantly carried out on the first floor, the whole of the nursery on both ground and first floor are now in use. Consequently, concerns about risk assessment in terms of young children accessing toys and resources only suitable for pre-school children has been suitably addressed. Now that the whole of the building is occupied and most of the necessary resources have been transferred from the providers other previously registered site, conditions for children at this address have been satisfactorily improved.

The necessary documents that the provider relies upon to ensure the safe and efficient management of the setting and to meet the needs of the children have been transferred from the other, previously registered site and adapted to meet the needs of this site. This includes a safeguarding policy and procedure for staff to follow. There are now first aid resources, notices identifying key workers for each child, suitably maintained records of the daily hours of attendance for staff and children, as well as all other necessary policies and procedures for staff to refer to.

There has been no advice gained from the Health and Safety Executive,

Environmental Health or Fire Service, however, the provider has contacted the owner of the building to take the necessary steps to address all concern relating to the maintenance of the building, which includes concern about the entrance and exit. There are automatic opening doors, which are identified by the provider as a risk. She has taken some steps to prevent children, arriving and departing with parents, from coming to harm by exiting unaccompanied onto a car park area and busy main road.

Satisfactory progress has been made to ensure that actions identified in the Notice of Actions to Improve are met. Policies and procedures are now available in the foyer for parents, and they can request a copy if they wish to take one away with them. The policy about ensuring equality of opportunities and for supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities has been reviewed and amended as necessary, although no children with special education needs or disability attend at present, satisfactory arrangements can be made if a parent did request care for their child.

There is now a balance of adult-led and freely-chosen or child-initiated activities, delivered through indoor and outdoor play. Children have access to indoor and outdoor play every day. The outdoor area is seen as an outdoor classroom, and staff are working well towards structuring the outdoor play so that learning objectives are identified for children when outside. Staff have undertaken some work to develop the planning and curriculum to identify what needs to be done to meet the children's learning and development requirements. This has been improved by the identification of the children's key workers and the use of all areas of the nursery where they are continuing to develop areas of learning in each room. The amount of resources to promote children's learning has improved. Planning is now in place, however this requires improvement to ensure that staff identify what stage each individual child is at, where they need to make progress, how they will support the child to make the progress identified and what the next step will be. Staff have undergone training to help them improve this area.

The next visit will be an inspection.

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

Susan Gregory HMI
National Director, Inspection Delivery