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Star Playschool and Nursery
Chiltern Primary School
Chiltern Way
Basingstoke
Hampshire
RG22 5BB

Our Reference EY314841

Dear Mrs Alison Sheridan

Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Lorraine Meldrum Sunter, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 15/08/2013. 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 18/04/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The notice required you to improve staff's knowledge of the learning and development requirements in order to consider the individual needs, interests, and stage of development of each child and use this information to identify their next steps and plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all of the areas of learning and development; improve staff's knowledge of the learning and development requirements to ensure that each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activity, particularly the programme for communication and language, and personal, social and emotional development; implement an effective key person system that ensures that every child's care is tailored to meet their individual needs; offers a settled relationship for the child and builds a relationship with their parents or carers; ensure there are appropriate arrangements in place for the supervision of staff who have contact with children and families, which includes opportunities for staff to discuss any issues - particularly concerning children's development or well-being; identify solutions to address issues as they arise; and receive coaching to improve their personal effectiveness; train all staff to understand the safeguarding policy and procedures, and ensure that all staff have up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues, training made available by the provider must enable staff to identify signs of possible abuse and neglect at the earliest opportunity, and to respond in a timely and appropriate way.

In addition to the welfare requirements notice you were issued several actions to improve requiring you to: record the following information for each child: information about any other person who has parental responsibility for the child and which parent(s) and/or carer(s) the child normally lives with; ensure all staff involved in preparing and handling food receive training in food hygiene; implement an effective behaviour management policy and procedure to support children's personal, social and emotional development; ensure that the premises, including outdoor spaces, are fit for purpose and keep the premises and equipment clean; obtain and share information with parents and other professionals working with the children to ensure there is a regular two-way flow of information to help ensure the needs of all children are met; use reflective practice to identify strengths and areas for development that will improve the provision for all children; ensure drinking water is available and accessible at all times; keep a daily record of the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance and the names of each child's key person; keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect; undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment: at least once in each calendar year, and immediately, where the need for an assessment arises, ensuring that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks.

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

Overall effectiveness of the improvement and outcomes for children

A monitoring visit was undertaken on 22 May 2013. It was found that overall progress made since the last inspection was good. All issues identified at the inspection have been suitably addressed. A further monitoring visit was undertaken on 15 August 2013 to establish what further improvements had been made and to assess how all have been sustained.

The nursery have continued to improve their practice by fully embedding their new assessment system to track, observe and assess children's progress in their learning and development. Staff spoken to find the system easy to use and are confident and knowledgeable in using this.

The key person role is established and has provided consistency for parents when discussing their child's needs. The parents noticeboard, displayed in reception, provides parents with regular updates, news of events planned and changes that are happening within the setting. The nursery has further strengthened relationships with the school, which will aid the transition and settling in of children when they progress to school.

Further changes have been made that have improved the environment both indoors

and outdoors. The outdoor area has more resources added and the play areas are attractively organised for children. The baby room now has an area sectioned off for non-mobile children, which ensures their safety away from toddlers.

The provider has made and sustained good improvement since the last inspection, the next visit will be a full inspection.

Next steps

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

- The setting has made good 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