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Smarteenyz Nursery Clopton Road Community Nursery 121 Clopton Road BIRMINGHAM B33 0RJ Our Reference EY445645

Dear Mr Asif Bashir

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Sally Smith, monitored your provision on 03/03/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 03/12/2013, we sent you a notice to improve. The actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

During the monitoring visit the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She looked at current action plans and plans for future improvement. She conducted a tour of the premises and looked at the organisation and suitability of resources and equipment. She observed children playing and the quality of staff interactions to support children's learning. She had a discussion with the nominated person, manager, deputymanager and staff. The inspector also spoke to a representative from the local authority. She looked at your risk assessments, planning and assessment documentation, children's learning journals and the play areas, both inside and outside.

The inspector found that you have developed a comprehensive action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection. This has enabled you to accurately prioritise these so that they are manageable and achievable. In addition, it highlights your plans for ongoing improvement. You are working through these systematically and review your progress regularly. You have taken steps to ensure that risk assessments are discussed with staff so that they are aware of their responsibilities in identifying and minimising risks on a daily basis, particularly with regards to windows and blind cords. You have attended risk assessment training and new procedures for reviewing risks and monitoring the effectiveness of these are being implemented. This means that children are cared for in a safe environment.

Systems are in place to monitor the quality of teaching and assessment. You ensure

that the manager carries out regular observations of staff across the nursery and takes time in each room to model good practice, such as the use of open-ended questioning. You are working closely with a teacher from the children's centre who is also modelling good teaching with staff. Peer observations have been introduced so that staff can observe each other and feed back particular strengths and weaknesses of their practice. You ensure that the manager checks that staff are carrying out regular observations of children and using the information to assess children's progress across all areas of learning. Assessments are now shared with parents who are able to contribute their comments and views. Parents also complete an 'All about me' form regarding their child at the start of the placement. As part of the manager's role, she ensures that this information is consistently obtained so that staff can ascertain children's interests to help inform planning. As a result, children are beginning to enjoy a range of activities that are challenging and fun. You are working closely with the local authority advisor as this continues to be a focus for development. Supervision sessions with staff have been implemented so that training needs can be identified and support put in place to enhance their knowledge and skills.

Further initiatives have been devised to share information with parents and encourage them to be involved in their children's learning. You send out monthly ideas and suggestions for parents to support their child's learning at home. You have organised parent workshops so that they can come and join in activities with their children. This has helped them to see that children learn through play. Children's assessments are discussed with parents and they are encouraged to share their views of their children's achievements at home so that they contribute to their children's learning and development.

You continue to improve the outdoor environment and acknowledge this is still being developed. Staff display signs, labels and numbers so that children can see print. Books are provided in an undercover play area so that children can access these as they choose. Paints, chalks, paper and crayons are available so that children can develop their early writing skills. Parents have been consulted as to how the area can be improved and how they can be involved to further support the quality of the outdoor learning environment for all children.

You have welcomed support from your local authority and identified a clear plan of action for both the immediate and future improvement. You also engage with other early years professionals and keenly embrace their help, advice and support.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that the setting has taken prompt and effective action to address the points for improvement.

Next steps

The next step will be a full inspection.

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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

Nick Hudson National Director, Early Education

Actions

Action ensure that risk assessments are effective	Due date 13/12/2013	Closed date 03/03/2014
in identifying all risks to children, and demonstrate how prompt action is taken to minimise risks to children; this specifically relates to children's access to blind cords that are not securely fixed and some first floor windows that do not have appropriate locks or restrictors fitted which means that windows can open fully		
devise and implement a robust procedure for monitoring the quality of teaching and assessment to ensure children make the best possible progress, their individual learning needs, play preferences and interests are consistently reflected in planning, and their progress is tracked accurately over time in relation to their starting points	13/12/2013	03/03/2014
develop the educational programme to provide consistent interesting and challenging experiences by improving staff's use of effective teaching strategies to promote learning for children at all times	13/12/2013	03/03/2014
develop strategies to engage parents and share information about their children's achievements at home, to further involve them in their children's learning and development.	10/12/2013	03/03/2014
ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm; this specifically refers to ensuring risk assessment is effective and identifies and suitably minimises potential risks to children's safety (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	13/12/2013	03/03/2014
ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm; this specifically refers to ensuring risk assessment is effective and identifies and suitably minimises potential risks to children's safety (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	13/12/2013	03/03/2014

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