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Beach Buddies Childcare
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Our Reference EY464791

Dear Ms Janet Helen Appleby

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Linda Williamson, monitored your provision on 26/02/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 27/01/2014, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

The welfare requirements notice required you to take the following action to meet the requirements of registration: must not allow people whose suitability has not been checked to have unsupervised contact with children being cared for; and ensure that staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety.

We also issued a notice to improve asking to take the following steps to meet the requirements of registration: improve the educational programme to include planned experiences that are challenging and enjoyable for all children; foster a culture of continuous improvement through rigorous systems of self-evaluation to identify and address key weaknesses, and take appropriate action to make improvements to enhance outcomes for children; put appropriate arrangements in place for the supervision of staff who have contact with children and families. Supervision should provide 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; and ensure that regular staff appraisals are carried out to identify any training needs, and secure opportunities for continued professional development for staff.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 25 February 2014 and prompt and effective action has been taken in regard to all actions. The provider has improved the staffing procedures and as result she has obtained an appropriate enhanced criminal record check for all staff members employed. All staff are aware of their responsibility to

ensure children are not left unsupervised with people whose suitability has not been checked. Management take an active role in monitoring staff performance and compliance with requirements. The provider has recruited additional staff that are suitably qualified. Risk assessments have been updated appropriately. Staff deployment has been suitably revised.

The level of formal and informal support to the staff team is improved. Staff have opportunities to discuss with the provider and manager about any concerns they have about children's progress and well-being. Management and staff have attended training, and systems are in place to provide in-house coaching to allow further sharing of good practice. A programme of further training linked to areas of development identified by the inspection is planned. The provider and manager have undertaken good quality appraisals of each other and established staff members. Active steps have been taken to tackle the areas for development discussed. A programme of regular staff appraisals is in place. Management and staff have worked together to produce a plan of action to tackle the weaknesses identified in the inspection and have taken further steps to make improvements to key policies and procedures. The provider and manager support an ethos of reflective practice and demonstrate a keenness to make continued improvements.

The advice, support and guidance provided by the local authority has been welcomed and acted upon. Key changes made to the planning, observation and assessment have improved the educational programme. All staff contribute to the planning and demonstrate an increased level of confidence in their teaching skills. Children were observed enjoying a range of activities both inside and out. Staff make use of outings to the woods and the beach to provide children with interesting and exciting learning environments. The provider and manager demonstrate a commitment to make further improvements to the nursery.

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.

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