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Christchurch Montessori
247 Fairmile Road
CHRISTCHURCH
Dorset
BH23 2LH

Our Reference EY373992

Dear Mrs Nicola Tracy Dowling

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Diane Burt, monitored your provision on 05/03/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 22/08/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice. The actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

The welfare requirement notice required you to ensure hygienic preparation of food; make sure all staff involved in the preparation and handling of food are food hygiene trained and competent to do so.

In addition to the welfare requirements notice you were also issued with a notice to improve. This required you to ensure that any person who is likely to have regular contact with children is suitable; record information about all staff's identity checks and vetting processes that have been completed, including the Disclosure and Barring Service check, reference number, the date a disclosure was obtained and details of who obtained it.

It also requires you to implement effective systems for self-evaluation and foster a culture of continuous improvement to ensure all requirements, and the needs of children are met at all times. To ensure the physical and emotional needs of babies are met; make sure that those caring for babies have suitable skills and are deployed appropriately so that babies receive good quality support for their care and learning. Also to develop the educational programmes to promote younger children's development in all areas. You were also required to ensure equipment is kept clean with particular regard to feeding chairs, toys and nappy changing equipment in the baby room

An inspector visited you on 2 December 2013 to monitor your progress.

The inspector discussed with the manager the steps taken to address the action

taken in the welfare requirements notice and notices to improve.

The inspector spent time in the baby and younger children's rooms talking to staff and observing practice.

The inspector observed that you now record all refrigerator temperatures and all staff are in the process of food hygiene training to ensure they are competent to prepare all food.

All staff have up to date DBS checks and these are applied for as required.

The equipment is now cleaned regularly and it was observed that all feeding chairs, toys and nappy changing area are clean.

The provider and manager had completed a self-evaluation form which was not available however they are looking to continue and update their form to ensure that the care, learning and development of babies is promoted.

Daily diaries have now been started for the younger children between the nursery and parents which are working well.

At the visit the inspector observed that planning had not been completed for the week and there was no evidence to support that babies and younger children's development was promoted in all areas.

The deployment of staff was not effective which meant that the babies did not receive good quality support for their care and learning.

Consequently a new notice to improve was set to ensure staffing arrangements and qualifications meet the needs of all children aged under two years of age and that half of all staff have received training that specifically addresses the care of babies.

There was some evidence that younger children's language and communication development is considered as the toddlers enjoyed a singing session with repeated sounds and phrases and all children were engaged with the staff member. The use of props was noted and this held the children's attention for a considerable period of time.

A further monitoring visit was completed on 5 March 2014. The inspector found that there had been changes to the management of the baby and toddler room which did impact positively on the care of the children.

The staff are working towards improving and updating the planning so they are planning more for the individual child, their learning style and next steps.

There is clear evidence on planning boards in both areas of all children's next steps this is then fed into the planning which again is visual to all in the room.

Observations and learning journals are completed and shared with parents.

Staffing was consistent and also staff were relevantly qualified, which again showed a positive impact on the care of the babies; who were engaged and responsive to staff and the inspector.

Babies' language development is extended further as there is continual appropriate dialogue. Babies are spoken to and encouraged to mimic sounds - books available to

Our Reference EY373992

encourage purposeful dialogue.

Training has been accessed and staff change routines to ensure all children's needs are met.

The management team have worked hard to promote improved care for the babies and toddlers and have continued to accept support from the local authority for all areas of 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

Actions

Action	Due date	Closed date
ensure there are effective systems to check that any person caring for or in regular contact with children is suitable to work with children; these must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	29/11/2013	04/12/2013
ensure there are effective systems to check that any person caring for or in regular contact with children is suitable to work with children; these must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	29/11/2013	04/12/2013
ensure equipment is kept clean with particular regard to feeding chairs, toys and nappy changing equipment in the baby room.	29/11/2013	04/12/2013
ensure that any person who is likely to have regular contact with children is suitable; record information about all staff's identity checks and vetting processes that have been completed, including the Disclosure and Barring Service check, reference number, the date a disclosure was obtained and details of who obtained it	29/11/2013	04/12/2013
foster a culture of continuous improvement by implementing effective systems for self-evaluation to ensure all requirements and the needs of children are met at all times	29/11/2013	05/03/2014
ensure the physical and emotional needs of babies are met; make sure that those caring for babies have suitable skills and are deployed appropriately so that babies receive good quality support for their care and learning	29/11/2013	05/03/2014
develop educational programmes for language and communication, for example by describing what children are doing and providing good speech models	29/11/2013	05/03/2014

Our Reference EY373992

ensure staffing arrangements and 02/12/2013 05/03/2014
qualifications meet the needs of all
children aged under two and that half of
all staff have received training that
specifically addresses the care of babies.