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Little Ferns Pre-School
Scout Headquarters R10
106 West Street, Ewell
EPSOM
Surrey
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Our Reference EY411980

Dear Melanie Jane Merchant

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Linda du Preez, monitored your provision on 24/03/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 30/09/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice. The actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

This visit was a monitoring visit following two other monitoring visits on 2 February 2014 and 10 March 2014. The monitoring visits followed an inspection conducted 30 September 2013 when your provision was judged inadequate. This letter will address the welfare requirement notice and the notice to improve issued following the monitoring visit on 10 March 2014.

The welfare requirement notice required you to ensure that risk assessments effectively identify all aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis and ensure that all risks to children's safety are removed or minimised at all times. At the monitoring visit on 24 March 2014, the inspector found that you have improved the effectiveness of your risk assessments and taken steps to make all ropes in the indoor and outdoor areas inaccessible to children. You have risk assessed the large fire door and held discussion with children about the importance of keeping the area free from obstructions. You have involved the parents and children in managing risk, which demonstrates a reflective attitude and positive approach to driving and maintaining improvements.

The notice to improve required you to ensure that people looking after children are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their roles, with particular regard to understanding the requirements relating to risk assessments and maintaining a safe environment at all times. Management and staff hold weekly meetings to discuss their roles and as a result, staff are far more clear about their role in managing risk and providing a safe environment. Through discussion, you and your team demonstrate a confident attitude to managing risk and agree that you are now more

proactive rather than reactive. As a result, the pre-school is more organised and safe. Furthermore, you teach children about safety to develop their understanding of keeping safe. This teaching helps children to develop useful skills for their future. At the monitoring visit on 10 March 2014 the inspector found that you have taken steps to improve the educational programmes and in particular the observation, assessment and planning. However, inconsistencies in the effectiveness of the key person system were identified. We issued a notice to improve which required you to implement an effective key person system to ensure that every child's learning and care is tailored to meet their individual needs. At the monitoring visit 24 March 2014 the inspector found that you have improved the key person system by sharing the role of key person across the whole team. You have displayed lists of children and their key person and kept parents up to date about the changes. The inspector found that the improvements to the observation, assessment and planning have now come in to fruition due the improvements in the implementation of the key person system. This has had a positive impact on teaching and learning as staff are more focussed on children's individual interests and individual needs. For example, when children were interested in the differences in their heights, a member of staff provided tape measures and clip boards for them to records and compare how tall they are. This positive approach provided good levels of challenge for children's mathematical thinking and motivates their literacy skills. Ofsted will monitor the consistency of your progress and how the improvements are sustained at the next full inspection.

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 that risk assessments effectively identify all aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis and ensure that all risks to children's safety are removed or minimised at all times.	21/03/2014	24/03/2014
Ensure that people looking after children are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their roles, with particular regard to understanding the requirements relating to risk assessments and maintaining a safe environment at all times.	31/03/2014	24/03/2014
implement an effective key person system to ensure that every child's learning and care is tailored to meet their individual needs.	31/03/2014	24/03/2014