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Schools Out Childcare
Archibald Street
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE3 1EB

Our Reference 319297

Dear Margaret Rose Vent

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Julie Morrison, monitored your provision on 28/03/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 08/01/2014, 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 observed staff's practice, activities indoors and outside and had a discussion with yourself in your capacity as owner. The inspector also spoke to children, staff and had a telephone conversation with a representative from the local authority. She looked at documentation related to your staff records, your planning and observations of children's learning.

The inspector found that you have been proactive in addressing the actions set. You have received a visit and guidance from your local authority representative, this has enabled you to further develop your understanding of how to meet the actions. You state that you have developed a written action plan to help you in addressing the issues, however, this was not available at the time of the monitoring visit.

You have worked quickly to ensure that staff records are organised more effectively and Disclosure and Barring Service checks are readily available and include all of the required information. This means that you can now evidence that no individual who is unsuitable to work with children has unsupervised access to a child receiving childcare. You understand the importance of ensuring that these are kept up to date and are readily available for inspection.

You have developed an Early Years Foundation Stage team within your setting with

two designated key persons to support those children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The key persons are now planning activities specifically for the Early Years Foundation Stage children based on the current themes at the on-site school. This helps to promote consistency for children and means that activities are age-appropriate. The key persons are also completing written observations of the activities which they are linking to the areas of learning and developmental bands to identify children's learning. This has resulted in staff getting to know the children better and children being more engaged in the activities at your setting. Staff were observed engaging appropriately with the children to support their learning, for example, as children made Mother's Day cards staff encouraged them to use scissors, pens and brushes. This supports their physical development and aids their dexterity. Staff also supported children's literacy skills as they encouraged them to write their names on their work. However, the information you are sharing with the on-site school is based around the topics that the school are covering that term. You have not shared information about children's individual next steps in learning, so that your planning is more effectively based on children's individual learning. In addition, although you have spoken to other local schools, you have not yet further developed the sharing of information with those schools from which children attend on a less regular basis. You do however, recognise these as areas still to develop.

The inspector found that you now ensure that children have daily opportunities for outdoor play. Due to the school use of the outdoor area, the time you have available to use the outdoor space varies on different nights of the week. However, you are ensuring that where possible children are able to spend as much of the session in the outdoor area as they choose. In addition, you have planned activities with the Early Years Foundation Stage children to take them on outings, for example, to the local park. This helps to promote children's physical skills and promotes a healthy lifestyle. However, you have still to implement procedures to show how you will sustain this over the winter evenings when there is a lack of lighting in the school outdoor area.

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 information is recorded about the identity checks and vetting processes of all practitioners, including the criminal records disclosure, reference number, date it was obtained and the details of who obtained it	22/01/2014	28/04/2014
ensure that no individual who is unsuitable to work with children has unsupervised access to a child receiving childcare (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	15/01/2014	28/03/2014
ensure that no individual who is unsuitable to work with children has unsupervised access to a child receiving childcare (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	15/01/2014	28/03/2014
use observations successfully to identify individual children's next steps and effectively plan experiences and activities that support each child's development	22/01/2014	28/03/2014
develop successful systems of sharing information about children's development with others who provide the Early Years Foundation Stage to provide a continuous learning journey where children can make progress in their learning	22/01/2014	28/03/2014
ensure that children have consistent daily opportunities to participate in outdoor play to build on their physical skills and promote a healthy lifestyle.	22/01/2014	28/03/2014