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Slaithwaite Playgroup  
Community Centre  
Bankgate, Slaithwaite  
Huddersfield  
West Yorkshire  
HD7 5DL

Our Reference 311325

Dear Slaithwaite Playgroup

### **Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate**

An Ofsted inspector, Nicola Dickinson, 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 10/12/2013, 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 improve. She reviewed the systems you have put in place to ensure that children are kept safe when playing outside. She also reviewed how you have improved staff's knowledge of behaviour management strategies and observed how these are implemented in practice. She discussed with you how you are meeting your responsibilities relating to the Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. The inspector also discussed with you what measures you have implemented to ensure staff are using observations and assessments to identify gaps in children's learning. Also, she reviewed how staff are using the information they gather to plan challenging activities that help children to make progress. She reviewed the systems in place for completing the required progress check at age two. The inspector discussed measures you have taken to improve the key person system and reviewed how this is implemented in practice. The inspector also spoke to a representative from the local authority.

The inspector found that you have developed a comprehensive action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection and have introduced systems to evaluate the quality of practice and the impact this has on outcomes for children. This has enabled you to accurately prioritise the areas for improvement identified at your last inspection and to plan for ongoing improvement.

A new lock has been fitted to the gate to the outdoor play area. This means children

cannot open the gate themselves and the outdoor play area is now secure. As a result, children are kept safe while outside.

All practitioners have attended training in managing children's behaviour to improve their knowledge and understanding of how to manage behaviour effectively. This means the playgroup's behaviour management strategies are now implemented appropriately and children are developing their understanding of right and wrong. As a result, behaviour in the playgroup is improving.

You have taken action to improve your understanding of the Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage by attending a range of training to improve your knowledge. You demonstrate in discussion you are aware of your role and responsibilities.

You have welcomed support from your local authority and are working closely with them to develop practitioner's knowledge and understanding of how to use observations and assessments to inform planning. This means they can plan educational programmes that provide children with suitable levels of challenge that help them to make good progress in their learning.

Your manager now has a clear role in monitoring the assessment of children's learning including the required progress checks at age two. Assessments are shared with parents and they can share their children's learning at home. This helps to identify any gaps in children's development, thus ensuring strategies can be put in place to help them progress.

You have taken action to make the key person system more robust by increasing staff ratios. This means the manager can work with practitioners to support them in improving their practice. As a result, staff are attentive to children's needs and are effectively promoting their independence to prepare them for the next stage in their learning.

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	Due date	Closed date
ensure that children are kept safe at all times by making sure that the garden gate is kept secure when children are playing outside	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
improve staff's knowledge of behaviour management strategies to ensure children develop an understanding of acceptable behaviour	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
ensure the nominated person is clear about their role and has a suitable understanding of the Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
ensure that staff identify the next steps in children's learning based on their observations and use this information to plan interesting and challenging activities that help the children to make good progress in their development	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
ensure staff review all children's progress between aged two and three years and complete a written summary to share with parents and carers	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
monitor the educational programme to enable staff to identify any gaps in children's learning in order to implement appropriate strategies and interventions to help children to make the best possible progress in their learning	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
strengthen the key person system to ensure that all staff interact well with the children and are responsive to their needs, to help prepare them for the next steps in their learning.	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
ensure that children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
ensure that children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	06/04/2014	06/04/2014

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ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
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ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	06/04/2014	06/04/2014
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