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Matlock Bath Pre-School Playgroup  
The Pavilion  
South Parade, Matlock Bath  
MATLOCK  
Derbyshire  
DE4 3NR

Our Reference 206816

Dear Matlock Bath Pre-School Playgroup Committee

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

An Ofsted inspector, Becky Johnson , monitored your provision on 07/04/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

### **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 15/01/2014, 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 your managers the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. The inspector observed interaction between staff and children in your provision and spoke with the children and staff. She observed children taking part in activities both inside and outdoors and noted the range of child-initiated and adult-led activities that were available. The inspector also looked at the action plans that you have produced and other documentation that you have in place to support the progress that you have made, such as planning, assessment and recruitment procedures. The inspector also discussed how you will ensure that designated staff have undertaken safeguarding training and how you will monitor your provision in the future to ensure that staff continue to support children's learning and development.

The inspector found that you have developed a comprehensive action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection and have worked closely with the local authority early years adviser. This has enabled you to accurately identify how to address the areas for improvement that were raised. The inspector is satisfied that you recognise the importance of monitoring the success of the improvements you have made. She is also satisfied that you now recognise the importance of evaluating the quality of practice to raise further targets to improve the outcomes for children.

Planning now effectively provides children with a range of appropriate activities. Children are able to freely choose from a range of resources and there is a good

balance of both adult-led and child-initiated activities. Staff interaction with children is positive. Children's next steps are now clearly identified and you have introduced a tracking system to help you to identify whether children are below, in-line with or above the average for their age band.

Your safeguarding policy has been reviewed and rewritten. You now have a named designated senior manager for safeguarding who has attended appropriate training. Furthermore, you have made sure that all staff have attended safeguarding training and that all emergency contact details are easily available should a member of staff need advice regarding a child in their care.

You have reviewed your recruitment procedures and have updated and reviewed staff files to include proof of identification and right to work. The staff files also include an updated self-declaration form which all staff sign to say that they are suitable and healthy to work with children. Furthermore, you have introduced supervision and appraisals for staff to enable you to identify areas for improvement and to support staff to attend training that will further enhance the quality of the provision.

You have started to evaluate the quality of your provision as the manager has started to introduce peer observations. In addition, every planning sheet has an evaluation section to enable staff to reflect on their practice and identify areas where activities can be improved and enhanced.

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 |
|---|------------|-------------|
| improve the balance between child-initiated and adult-led activities so that children remain engaged and there is a consistent level of challenge to promote good progress                  | 07/04/2014 | 07/04/2014  |
| improve planning so that it is sharply focused to effectively support individual children's next steps  | 07/04/2014 | 07/04/2014  |
| ensure all staff attend safeguarding training and in particular those who are designated safeguarding officers, to ensure they fully understand their role in protecting children from harm | 07/04/2014 | 07/04/2014  |
| implement a system of robust recruitment procedures to support the safeguarding of children and staff in the setting  | 07/04/2014 | 07/04/2014  |
| implement a system of supervision and appraisal for all staff, to effectively identify training needs and to bring about continuous improvement of the setting                              | 07/04/2014 | 07/04/2014  |