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Fiveways Playcentre
Between 8 & 10 Florence Road
(Rear)
Brighton
East Sussex
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Our Reference EY422545

Dear Fiveways Playcentre

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Clare Hanson, monitored your provision on 24/04/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 17/01/2014, we sent you a notice to improve.

During the monitoring visit, the inspector discussed with your manager the steps that have been taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She observed interaction between the staff and children, spoke to your manager, the deputy and spoke to staff members. The local authority advisor attended the visit and feedback and was very positive about the action the manager and staff have taken.

There was an issue at the last inspection concerning the suitability of staff. There was a lack of awareness that persons who are disqualified from working with children must apply to Ofsted for a waiver to this disqualification to allow them to be involved in childcare. This issue has been resolved and, where necessary, a waiver has been obtained and all persons concerned with the setting are suitable to be employed.

Your manager and the deputy have developed a clear action plan for all concerned to address the issues raised at the last inspection. This has been successful in helping you, and your staff team, to move forward. The local authority has provided full support to the manager and her team. Your manager reports that they have valued the support and the advice the local authority has given to help them improve their practice. The local authority advisor reported that she, and her team of advisors, have always found your staff to be proactive in keeping up to date with all quality schemes and are always keen to reflect on their practice and improve the outcome for children. Your senior staff have a clear record of what they have achieved since the last inspection and what is still left to be completed.

The senior staff have reviewed the systems used to assess the planning for the next stages in children's learning. Each key person keeps a chart which clearly identifies next steps in their key children's learning. The charts are kept in each child's folder. There are plans to introduce whiteboards in each room to display the planning objectives for each child so all staff are aware of them to help ensure appropriate activities are provided. As this is still a work in progress, this action remains ongoing.

The senior staff team, in discussion with the trustees, has reviewed the behaviour management policy. Staff have been on training to help them deal with inappropriate behaviour and shared these practices in staff meetings. For example, specific sections of the policy are brought to staff attention and used as a teaching aid to share best practice. Peer-on-peer observations have been introduced which are beginning to have an impact on practice. The local authority advisors have been very supportive in helping implement the system and acted as an independent observer to help with staff practice. Where necessary, your senior staff team has introduced action plans for individual children to help achieve more positive behaviour.

A review has been completed by your manager and the trustees on all policies and procedures including the complaint policy. The safeguarding policy has been rewritten and brought up to date. The trustees have also committed to undertaking safeguarding training to help understand their role. Every policy has been reissued to staff. Staff record they have read them. You state that this knowledge and understanding of the policies will be tested during staff meetings in the form of a quiz devised by room leaders to ensure staff have fully understood all aspects of the policies and their implementation.

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