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Eton Manor Children's Day Nursery Eton Manor Roding Lane Chigwell Essex IG9 6BJ Our Reference EY385378

Dear Casterbridge Nurseries Ltd

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Cheryl Langley, monitored your provision on 06/05/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 30/01/2014, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

This Welfare Requirement Notice required you to: take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises, and have an agreed procedure for checking the identity of visitors, Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement (EYFS) Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment, Premises W8.1/3.61 and ensure risk assessments are reviewed regularly, that they identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, when and by whom those aspects will be checked and how the risk will be removed or minimised, EYFS Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment Risk Assessment W8.1/3.63. These actions were to be met by 13 February 2014.

You were also issued with a Notice to improve which required you to: ensure that observation, assessment and planning for children under three years is focused on the prime areas of learning in order that all children are effectively supported and challenged to make sufficient progress given their age, abilities and starting points, EYFS Learning and Development 2. This action is to be met by 21 March 2014. Two actions were also raised on the Compulsory part of the Childcare register: ensure that no one can enter the premises without the knowledge of a person who is caring for children on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register) CR5 and undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment and ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register) CR5. These actions were to be met by 13 February 2014.

At the monitoring visit on 14 February 2014 effective action had been taken to make sure the premises are secure and unauthorised persons cannot enter. This had been achieved by fitting a key code lock to the internal door to the nursery which can only be opened by staff. The manager or her deputy are made aware of any visitors at the front door by a remote ringing device. Parents had been informed of the importance of following stringent procedures to protect their children and keep them safe. Potential hazards in the outside area have been removed and risk assessments have been updated to reflect this. Staff have received advice and training to update their knowledge and understanding of health and safety procedures.

From discussion and documentation staff are working towards meeting the action to be met by 21 March 2014. Training sessions hade taken place and staff are being monitored to make sure practice with children under three years of age is focussed on the areas of learning relevant to them and promotes their independence. During the visit staff were attentive and supportive. Children enjoyed socialising at meal times and appeared content. They are developing physical skills which help them move around or feed themselves with confidence. Children are becoming aware of their own needs and how to care for themselves. They were happy taking themselves off to their cosy cots for a sleep. We look forward to spending more time with the staff and children in this age range at the next monitoring visit.

At the second monitoring visit on 6 May 2014 the staff continue to ensure children are cared for in an environment that is safe. The premises are secure and steps are taken to make sure the outside area is safe at all times.

The learning and development for young children has been improved because staff are more rigorous in gathering relevant information about children at the outset and use this to plan effective play and activities to enable them to make progress. Focus is placed on the relevant areas of learning for individual children. There is a good balance of adult-led and child initiated play which encourages development and promotes children's independence. Children had fun looking at books, singing songs and rhymes or playing on large apparatus. Staff are attentive and show an interest in the children, encouraging communication and language through talking and gesturing. Support and guidance is given to develop children's physical skills such as dressing themselves or co-ordinating their bodies safely on the play equipment. Purposeful praise is offered and behaviour is managed with skill to aid children's personal, social and emotional development.

There is an action plan in place to drive improvement and staff are enthusiastic about the support and training offered. The manager and the team have systems in place to continue to advance the provision and improve outcomes for children.

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