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Hopscotch Day Nursery  
Bodriggy Street  
Hayle  
Cornwall  
TR27 4ND

Our Reference EY365165

Dear Hopscotch Day Nursery Partnership

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

An Ofsted inspector, ISP Inspection, monitored your provision on 13/05/2014 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 your deputy, the steps you and your staff have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. The inspector observed the various rooms within the nursery and the changes you have made to them and the outdoor area. She briefly spoke to you on the telephone. The head of the local authority early years advisory team attended at the beginning of the visit and another local authority advisor attended for the feedback. The inspector looked at the documentation you now keep for risk assessments, monitoring, and staff supervision.

You have developed a clear action plan to address the issues raised at the last inspection and this has been successful in helping you move forward. You have had the full support of the local authority and you value that support and the advice they have given to help you improve your practice. The local authority lead and advisor both confirmed that she and other members of the team found you willing and eager participant in drawing up the action plan to assist you. You keep a clear record of what you have done to achieve improvement and record your progress.

You have, with your staff, reviewed how children are supervised. As well as yourself and your deputy, you have shared the responsibility with each room supervisor to effectively deploy their staff and ensure the children are fully supervised. This is clearly an aspect your deputy initially worked on following your inspection as evidenced through the monitoring and observation documentation shared and discussed at this visit.

You have altered the areas within the nursery. As a result, the younger children, when the nursery is low in numbers, no longer play in the pre-school room. This means they do not access smaller items and resources which potentially are hazardous to them. Younger children do however play in the room for children aged two to three years. All children play together outdoors. Steps have been made to ensure these areas are safe for all children to play in. For example, your deputy shared how the marble run is still available but used under supervision.

Staff in each of the rooms have undertaken an audit of all resources. They have taken into consideration whether the resources accessible to children are suitable, safe and do not pose a hazard to children. By purchasing a 'choke tester' and removing smaller items easily accessible to younger children, you and your staff have limited potential risk to children. Your deputy shared with me the risk assessment forms each key person completes prior to their key child moving through the nursery. This is shared with all staff. The form has been amended to highlight additional aspects that need to be considered. For example, if the child is known to put items into their mouth, or needs support climbing steps. This enables all staff to be fully supportive and alert.

You have put systems in place for the first member of staff on duty in each room, to complete the daily check list before children arrive. Your deputy also produced documentation to show that either she, or you, completes spot checks at various times throughout the day to help ensure aspects of safety within the nursery environment continue to be maintained. In addition staff complete 'near miss' forms which highlight areas which could lead to potential risk to children and how these are dealt with demonstrating staff are being more vigilant around the nursery.

You monitor staff practice by carrying out regular observations of the staff. You have recently started to video staff at their work which you then share with individual staff as a means of identifying aspects of good practice and areas which require further development. Since January 2014 all staff including students have undergone at least one supervision session with you. During these sessions you have shared the nursery practice in relation to confidentiality, aspects of their individual practice, and highlighted areas for their future development.

The introduction of regular full team meeting as well as small room meetings provides opportunities for staff to meet as a group and share their thoughts and ideas for the nursery as a whole. The sharing of policies and procedures enables staff and parents to become part of the policy process and gain a better understanding of nursery life and practices. Further training on health and safety is planned for the whole staff team to attend.

You have updated your self-evaluation form, and your deputy recognises this is an ongoing process. You have made changes and have sought comments from parents via a questionnaire. This was not dated so it was difficult to establish when this had taken place. You have changed the lay-out within the pre-school room to further

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promote the book area, with a range of accessible books at child height. As a result you have made it a much more inviting and accessible area for children to access. You have introduced lending books and activities for children to take home which includes parents in their child's learning and development.

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 children are supervised appropriately at all times to help keep them safe and prevent accidents	10/01/2014	13/05/2014
ensure risk assessments identify potential hazards to all children and that action is taken to reduce the risk, particularly in relation to the pre-school room	22/01/2014	13/05/2014
ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).	10/01/2014	13/05/2014
ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	10/01/2014	13/05/2014
ensure the systems used to foster continuous improvement are robust; make sure that self-evaluation identifies and addresses key weaknesses, priorities and targets for improvement based on rigorous monitoring of practice.	22/01/2014	