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Pelican Playgroup  
Pelican Centre  
United Reformed Church Hall, High  
Street, Earl Shilton  
Leicestershire  
LE9 7DH

Our Reference EY342539

Dear Beverley Hutt

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

An Ofsted inspector, Ann Austen, monitored your provision on 03/07/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

### **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 03/04/2014, we sent you a notice to improve. If you were set actions at the inspection, or as a result of our subsequent monitoring or investigations, these are included at the end of this letter unless we have already verified that they have been completed.

During the monitoring visit, the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. The inspector observed staff working with the children; their interactions and the range of activities provided. She discussed the monitoring of students' and staffs' practice; their professional development and strategies to improve the quality of their teaching. The inspector discussed child protection and behaviour management procedures. She spoke to the manager and a representative from the local authority.

The inspector found that you have developed an action plan to address the concerns raised at your last inspection and have introduced procedures to evaluate the quality of your practice and the impact this has on outcomes for children. This has enabled you to identify how you are going to address the areas for improvement that were identified at your last inspection and to plan for ongoing progress.

The inspector found that you have developed your knowledge of safeguarding procedures, including the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. Additionally, the manager was able to discuss the referral process, including contacting the Local Safeguarding Children Board and Ofsted where appropriate. In addition, the manager states that she has discussed

safeguarding practices with all staff members and that she has improved the written safeguarding policy. For example, this now includes the correct contact numbers for the local agencies. As a result, management and the staff have a greater understanding of their roles and responsibilities, which helps to ensure all children, are effectively cared for and protected.

The inspector found that procedures to improve the quality of teaching are continuing to be implemented and embedded in practice. The manager and staff have welcomed support from the local authority. The manager stated she is coaching the staffs' effectiveness by encouraging them to ask more open-ended questions to inspire the children to think and respond. In addition, the manager stated that several members of staff are booked on relevant training courses to support them to develop their knowledge and skills further. As a result, the manager stated that adult-focussed teaching is improving and children are now beginning to make better progress. The inspector observed children being cared for on the day of the monitoring visit to be happy and appropriately engaged in their play. Children freely select from the range of activities and resources provided and staff were observed interacting and supporting the children's learning.

The inspector found that the management of children's behaviour across the playgroup has improved. The manager explained how staff support children to understand the consequences of their actions; and she stated that children are encouraged to share, take their turn and to understand the feelings of others. She explained that this was beginning to have a positive impact on relationships and the level of children's engagement in their learning. Additionally, the manager explained that appropriate behaviour management strategies have been discussed with all members of staff and that a written policy is in place to support their practice.

The inspector found that systems to monitor the staffs' practice, in order to support their professional development, has improved. The manager stated that she has spent time observing staff practice and that supervision meetings have been introduced. She advised that supervision is used to discuss the staffs' practice, their key children's development, and to highlight areas for professional development. The manager stated that as a result, staff have become more focussed in their work. The inspector also found that the manager understands her responsibilities with regards to students working at your provision. The manager discussed that students now undertake an induction training programme to help them understand their roles and responsibilities.

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 the registered person has a robust understanding of the maintenance and purpose of the safeguarding procedures of the provision	21/04/2014	03/07/2014
improve the quality of teaching by providing effective support, mentoring and coaching to ensure that all children consistently receive good quality teaching to help them make progress in their learning	21/04/2014	03/07/2014
ensure that children's behaviour is always managed consistently to support their learning about expectations, boundaries and their personal, social and emotional development	21/04/2014	03/07/2014
ensure there is effective monitoring of staffs' and students' practice to support their ongoing professional development.	21/04/2014	03/07/2014