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Cromdale Way Pre-School
Tim Parry Community Centre
Cromdale Way
WARRINGTON
WA5 3NY

Our Reference 315215

Dear Cromdale Way Pre-School Committee

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Frank Kelly, monitored your provision on 15/07/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 24/04/2014, 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. He also looked at the recommendations made to further improve the quality of the early years provision. The inspector discussed with you your action plans and quality improvement plans. He viewed various regulatory documents, such as the children's records of attendance and staff recruitment details, Disclosure and Barring Service checks and ongoing support and development records. He discussed with you and your deputy manager, the steps taken to support children who speak English as an additional language. The inspector viewed documentation you are using to engage and share information with parents when children first start and discussed with you your plans for engaging parents in their children's learning in the future. He observed staff interact and play with the children and you made available the improved records for monitoring and tracking the children's learning. The inspector also undertook a tour of the premises.

The inspector was unable to speak with the representative from the local authority during the visit. However, he found that with the support of the local authority you have taken robust action to address the issues raised at the last inspection. You explained that you were awaiting the outcome of the monitoring visit before revising them further to continue to build on the progress made. The inspector found that

you had taken immediate and decisive action following your inspection with respect to the organisation and deployment of staff. You provided detailed records of the staff and children's attendance since your last inspection. These provided evidence that the revised staffing arrangements ensure that the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are fully met, including at the start of the sessions when children arrive. As a result, children's safety is improved and the higher adult-to-child ratios mean that children benefit from regular adult support and attention throughout their time at the setting.

The inspector found that you have improved the way you maintain records relating to staffs' recruitment and ongoing suitability. This means that the requirements of the Early Years Foundations Stage and also the requirements of both parts of the Childcare Register are now met. As a result, you are able to evidence the steps taken to assess if the adults caring for the children have the integrity, qualifications and experience appropriate to their roles. This helps to safeguard children and promotes their well-being. You discussed with the inspector the review taken of staff roles and responsibilities. This includes your plans to withdraw from the day-to-day running of the setting so as to allow you more time to monitor and coordinate improvement. Your deputy manager is now taking the lead for the coordination of the learning and development programme. This includes monitoring the staff's ongoing observation and assessment for children's future learning. A system to track and review the curriculum and the progress of groups of children has also been put into place. It is acknowledged that this is still its infancy but it provides a secure base for the identification of any gaps in learning that may occur.

You told the inspector about the increased frequency of supervision and the use of peer observation that has been introduced. You discussed with the inspector the benefits for staff support and coaching and how this is helping strengthen their skills to improve their teaching and the learning outcomes for children. You shared with the inspector your improved methods for gaining information from parents when children first start. You explained how they are enabling staff to identify and plan more effectively for children's next steps in learning. Partnerships with parents have also been improved. Staff have asked parents to tell them key words in children's home language when children speak English as an additional language. Displays and labels are visible throughout the setting, but you acknowledged that staff are still hesitant to use the key words. However, they are taking steps to work with parents to ensure they pronounce key words correctly, in order to more fully support children in their daily routines and play. Consequently, this creates an inclusive and welcoming environment and supports the children to develop the use of their home language, which in turn, helps them to be confident in their learning of English. Staff organise the play environment invitingly and they support learning through impromptu discussions, for example, those relating to significant numbers and the

differing ages of people. As a result, children are interested and lively learners and eagerly join in suitable activities appropriate for their developmental stage.

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 that the ratio requirements are met at all times to ensure children's safety and well-being is effectively promoted	30/05/2014	15/07/2014
ensure all staff working with children are subject to a rigorous recruitment procedure, including checking staff have suitable skills and experience, gaining suitable references and completing application forms so employment history can be checked	30/05/2014	15/07/2014
provide opportunities for children whose home language is not English to develop and use their home language in play and learning, to further support their developing speech and value their unique culture.	30/05/2014	15/07/2014
ensure that any person in contact with children is of integrity and good character and has the skills and experience suitable for the work (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	30/05/2014	15/07/2014
ensure that any person in contact with children is of integrity and good character and has the skills and experience suitable for the work (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	30/05/2014	15/07/2014