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Seymour Kindergarten
23 Seymour Road
Crumpsall
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Lancashire
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Our Reference EY230750

Dear Toto Nurseries Limited

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Angela Rowley, 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 15/05/2014, 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 reviewed the action plan you created following the inspection, and discussed with your manager the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. The inspector also spoke to staff about the improvements made, including their understanding of the key-person role, the safeguarding procedures and the revised systems for assessing children's levels of development. She looked at the security of the premises, the children's rooms and the resources available to support the educational programmes. In addition, the inspector viewed records of safeguarding children training, records of the vetting of staff, and records relating to the observation, assessment and planning for children's learning needs. She also held discussions with the manager in relation to how the quality of teaching is monitored and how improvements will be sustained and embedded. The manager attempted to make contact with the local authority; however, she was unable to do so during the course of the visit.

The inspector found that, working with your local authority adviser, you have developed a suitable action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection. You have agreed to continue to accept the support of the adviser to guide and advise staff as they implement the improvements planned, in order to help ensure that these are sustainable. The inspector is satisfied that you recognise the importance of

deploying the manager's time more effectively, so that she can monitor the delivery and the impact of the improvements being made.

Since the last inspection you have addressed the issue of the front door being left open by installing a self-closing device. This now ensures that the door secures itself after use. In addition, you nominated a member of staff to take responsibility for escorting parents out of the premises. This reduces the possibility of the door not fully closing. Consequently, the premises are now secure. You have further addressed concerns around safeguarding children by refreshing staff's understanding of safeguarding issues and procedures through specific training. You have also provided the manager with access to further child protection training so that she is fully able to carry out her role of designated person. The manager said that she has further plans to display Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures, which staff can quickly refer to, if necessary. This means that staff are now better able to act on safeguarding concerns.

You have addressed weaknesses in the key-person system by refreshing staff's understanding of the key person role. You have also provided parents with this information along with displays of staff's key groups so that the name of the key person is easily identifiable. As a result, staff now understand their responsibilities as a key person, including for the observation, assessment and planning of children's needs. You have reviewed the systems that were being used by staff to observe children and you have made improvements to these. Staff now make a summative assessment of their ongoing observations of what children can do, every six weeks. This assessment is made using an appropriate development guide and enables staff to more effectively identify if there is a possibility of children being at risk of falling behind in their learning. Staff working with two-year-old children now use this information to complete the required progress check between the ages of two and three years. You are aware that they are still embedding their understanding of using these new systems, however, you have agreed to work with the local adviser who has planned meetings with staff to further support their understanding.

Since the last inspection you have reviewed the activities provided for children and you have improved the quality of these by refreshing some of the resources and equipment on offer. Staff have refreshed children's rooms and the continuous play provision available to support children's independent learning. You are using your key-person system to inform the planning of children's activities, although the nursery manager acknowledges that training still needs to be undertaken to secure staff's understanding of how to best use their observations to assess children's levels of development, so they can plan and provide suitable levels of challenge in activities. The inspector is satisfied that you have already arranged with your local advisers to address this in a timely manner.

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
have effective systems to ensure that any person caring for, or in regular contact with, children: is suitable to work with children which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, is of integrity and good character, has skills and experience suitable for the work and is physically and mentally fit for the work (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
ensure that a child is unable to leave the premises unsupervised except where the childcare is one access childcare, or where the child is aged eight or over and the parent of the child has agreed that they may leave the provision unaccompanied (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
have effective systems to ensure that any person caring for, or in regular contact with, children: is suitable to work with children which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, is of integrity and good character, has skills and experience suitable for the work and is physically and mentally fit for the work (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
provide each child with a key person to ensure that their learning and care is tailored to meet their needs and that relationships are built with their parents	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
keep evidence of each practitioners' references, identity checks and employment history to ensure the suitability of people working with the children.	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
use assessment to identify whether children are meeting expected levels of	29/05/2014	15/07/2014

development to ensure children are supported to narrow the gaps in their learning

review children's progress between the ages of two and three years to accurately identify their ongoing needs and support their future learning and development	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
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ensure a practitioner is designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding children and that practitioners are given support, advice and guidance to enable them to have a secure knowledge of safeguarding policies and procedures	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
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provide educational programmes that offer children enjoyable and challenging experiences in all areas of learning and development to enable them to make good progress	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
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ensure that the premises are secure at all times to keep children safe.	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
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ensure that a child is unable to leave the premises without a person who is caring for children on those premises becoming aware of the child leaving (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	29/05/2014	15/07/2014
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take action as specified in the early years section of the report	10/08/2011	15/07/2014
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