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Kinder Care Day Nursery
32 Richmond Road
Stechford
Birmingham
West Midlands
B33 8SH

Our Reference EY341970

Dear Apex Ltd

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Lorraine Anne Lawton, monitored your provision on 04/07/2014 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 welfare requirements notice. 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.

The welfare requirements notice and an additional notice to improve required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the following requirements: Child Protection, Staff qualifications, training, support and skills, Medicines and Suitable People. The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notice sent to you on 28 April 2014. A previous monitoring visit, completed on 16 May 2014, found that you had taken prompt and effective action and were complying with the requirements of these notices.

During the monitoring visit on 4 July 2014, the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She observed interaction between staff and children throughout the nursery and had a discussion with a parent about how staff communicate information about a child's care, learning and development. The inspector also spoke to you, your deputies and individual staff. On this occasion, a representative from the local authority was unable to attend. The inspector also looked at your planning and assessment records.

The inspector found that you have developed a detailed action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection. This has enabled you to accurately identify how

to address the areas for improvement identified at your last inspection and to plan for ongoing improvement. You have welcomed support from your local authority. You and staff have attended a range of external training courses to improve your knowledge and skills in specific areas. This includes an 'Effective Early Learning' programme, for staff who work in the pre-school room. You have also concentrated on in-house training through staff meetings and workshops to support staff to improve the effectiveness of their teaching so that children can make better progress. You have recruited staff to compliment your staff qualification levels and you plan to recruit further.

You have effectively engaged with parents about the outcome of the last inspection and sought their ideas to support your improvement. Consequently, staff are communicating better with parents, through a 'you said, we did' scheme. Parents also have opportunities to contribute their verbal and written comments on a daily basis, through a new planning and activity board. Parents are asked to comment about their child's interests at home and this assists staff to plan for individual children. In addition, specific information about activities is displayed and entitled, 'our focus'. For example, this informs parents about activities, such as, 'musical instrument play' where children explore and learn how sounds can be changed. In addition, staff display many more visual images and descriptions of individual children's activities and achievements to fully inform parents. This ensures staff can build on children's interests and fully compliment and support their learning and development. In addition, improvements have been made to the quality of the information obtained from parents at the start of a child's stay. This helps staff with initial assessments of a children's learning and development stages. Where required, translation support is provided by staff, for parents. Also, parents are asked to provide details of their child's school, so that staff can liaise and provide information to support the child's transition from the setting into school.

Staff communicate better with children, as they get down to the children's level. Some staff use humour and purposefully pitch their voice to stimulate children's interest and attention to engage them in activities. This demonstrates some improvement in the effectiveness of teaching and positively impacts on children's learning. Pre-school children show an interest and motivation to play independently or socialise with their peers without any required intervention from staff.

Staff make many more observations of children to inform accurate assessments and plan for children's next steps. Some staff have effectively and sensitively observed children and commented on children's attachments during their settling-in period. This demonstrates staff knowledge and understanding about the particular importance of supporting children's personal, emotional and social development. Some staff are receiving support from other staff to oversee children's assessment records and one of the management team is available on Saturday morning's to

guide and support staff with these records. Consequently, staff are more secure in their knowledge about what children have achieved. Staff support remains as, work in progress, in relation to the development of children's 'learning journeys' and accurate tracking of their progress.

The inspector recognises the drive and commitment you have shown to make improvements and meet requirements.

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
involve parents in their children's learning by improving the exchange of information on entry, during placement and by encouraging them to share their views to enhance children's learning and development at home	06/06/2014	04/07/2014
develop staff's knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements, so that children are provided with a suitable educational programme, which enables them to make good progress towards the early learning goals	06/06/2014	04/07/2014
implement the system for observation and assessment and use the information obtained from observing children to understand their level of achievement, interests and learning styles, and shape learning experiences for each child reflecting those observations to help children make the best possible progress in their learning and development.	06/06/2014	04/07/2014