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Graveley Pre-School  
Graveley Village Hall  
Graveley  
Hitchin  
SG4 7LE

Our Reference EY465365

Dear Mini Makers Pre-School Partnership

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

An Ofsted inspector, Linda Cass, 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 26/02/2014, 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 required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the following requirements: Child Protection and Suitable People. The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notice sent to you on 25 March 2014. A previous monitoring visit, completed on 29 April 2014, we found that you had taken prompt and effective action and were complying with the requirements of this notice.

During the monitoring visit of 29 April 2014 the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She found that insufficient progress had been made to meet the notices and further notices were issued under the following requirements: Education Programmes and Training, support and skills.

During the monitoring visit of 15 July 2014 the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. You have welcomed support from your local authority. You and your deputy manager have attended training courses to improve your knowledge and skills in planning and assessment. You use effective systems to track children's starting points and progress, and are completing progress checks for two year olds. You now have a better knowledge of what children have achieved. By ensuring you update learning

profiles as observations are made you can easily identify any gaps in children's progress. You identify and plan for their next steps in their learning. Overall children are making steady progress.

You have made some progress in providing a wide variety of activities that sufficiently cover the seven areas of learning. Some activities are planned to promote purposeful play. However, there is still scope for improvement regarding the activities provided for children. Some activities do not extend children's learning as little effort has been put in to ensuring they are interesting and entice children to participate. For example, the sand tray is too small and large equipment such as buckets and spades over-crowd it. Children are unable to explore the sand effectively and immediately lose interest. Little effort has been made to prepare the role play area. A doctors set was emptied on to a mat with no other equipment provided. Extending this role play to reflect a hospital or doctors surgery by adding more furniture such as a receptionist desk, dressing up clothes and a bed for the 'patient' would have given the role play area more purpose and extended children's learning. In addition, children are not always given the opportunity to free-flow from indoors to the garden because staff are not effectively deployed. You took prompt action to rectify this once it was pointed out to you by the inspector.

You now ensure that effective performance management systems are in place to improve the monitoring and supervision of staff. You have completed formal appraisals. You intend to do formal supervision with staff on a regular basis. You provide opportunities for them to receive support, coaching and training to improve practice and shape their professional development.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that at this time you have taken prompt and effective action to address the points for improvement.

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 precise ongoing assessment is undertaken as an integral part of the the learning and development process in order to, understand children's level of achievement and shape learning experiences for each child reflecting those observations.	15/07/2014	05/08/2014
ensure a wide variety of interesting and challenging activities are provided that sufficiently cover the seven areas of learning. Ensure planned, purposeful play is provided through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated activities.	15/07/2014	05/08/2014
ensure that effective performance management systems are in place to improve the monitoring and supervision of staff who have contact with children and families; providing opportunities for them to receive support, coaching and training to improve practice and shape their professional development	15/07/2014	05/08/2014
ensure that practitioners have appropriate training, skills and knowledge, and a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities, with particular regard to their knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning, development and assessment requirements	15/07/2014	05/08/2014