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Apple Kids Day Nursery
1 Showell Green Lane
Sparkhill
Birmingham
B11 4NP

Our Reference EY468993

Dear Apple Kids Day Nurseries Ltd

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Kamaljit Kaur Jandu, monitored your provision on 13/08/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 10/07/2014, 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.

The welfare requirements notice required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) under the following requirements: Suitable People, Risk assessment and Safety.

We also sent you a Notice of action to improve which required you to comply with the following requirements: Staff qualifications, training, support and skills, Staff deployment, Managing behaviour, Premises and Risk assessment.

You were also required to take action in relation to the Learning and Development Requirements of the EYFS.

The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notice sent to you on 28 July 2014.

During the monitoring visit of 13 August 2014, the inspector discussed with you the steps you had taken to address the actions raised in the Notice of action to improve. She observed interaction between staff and children, and spoke to individual members of staff. The inspector also looked at information obtained at admission regarding individual children's needs and records for risk assessment.

The inspector found that you had taken some steps to improve. You had employed a

consultant company to help you make improvements and you had also sought advice and guidance from the local authority. You said that you had advertised for a new manager.

You also stated that you had taken no action as yet to meet the actions to improve. You stated that you left the running of the nursery to your current manager. You are aware that this person does not have the necessary skills and experience to ensure that the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements are met at all times, but you have taken no steps to ensure she is provided with sufficient guidance and support to enable her to carry out her role effectively. Some progress has been made to ensure that arrangements are in place for regular supervision and appraisals for staff; however this does not include the manager.

You have taken some steps to confirm staff's suitability to work with children, however you have not yet received references for all staff.

You have not ensured that the premises are fit for purpose. Children do not use the outdoor area where there is a risk from uneven flooring, but you have not identified risks from the gates which restrict access to this area. The gates may cause an injury to children as they are not properly secure. In addition, the daily visual risk assessment for the day of the visit was completed incorrectly. Staff had recorded that children's toilets were clean; however the inspector observed that this was not the case. Staff admitted that they had not checked the toilet area before completing the record. This means that risk assessments are not robust.

You have taken some steps to improve the risk assessments for outings by identifying some risks that may occur. Staff said that improvements in this area are still being developed.

You stated that you are installing pegs for children's belongings; however this work has not yet been completed and children's belongings are stored in the staff toilet area. This is unhygienic and may impact on children's health.

You have not improved the planning of activities to take into account the individual needs, interests and stage of development of each child, to ensure that all children make good progress. Staff were not aware of children's individual needs and had not obtained information from parents to enable them to provide for children effectively. Staff were unaware of what children can and can't do and how they can help children to settle into the nursery. In one case, they did not know a child's correct name. They were not clear on how long the child had been attending and the information they provided was confusing.

The inspector did not assess staff deployment, behaviour management and routine

assessment as there was only one child present at the time of the visit and this child had just started attending and was settling in.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that the setting has not taken prompt and effective action to address the points for improvement.

Next steps

The next step will be further monitoring.

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 routine assessment, such as the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years, is used to identify children's strengths and where progress is less than expected, and provide parents with a short written summary of their children's development in the prime areas of learning	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that risk assessments identify aspects of the environment which need to be checked on a regular basis and how risk will be removed or minimised (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that a robust structure is in place that clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of leaders and managers, to enable effective communication that promotes the efficient running of the setting and that children are kept safe and well	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure children's bags and personal belongings are stored in an area which is suitable	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that staff consistently implement behaviour management strategies that give children clear guidance, to help them to learn about what is acceptable behaviour and ensure their safety	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure planning of activities take into account the individual needs, interests and stage of development of each child, to ensure that all children make good progress	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that the premises and equipment used for the purposes of the childcare are safe and suitable for that childcare (compulsory part of the Childcare	07/08/2014	13/08/2014

Register)

ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure risk assessments for outings assess the risk and hazards that may arise and identify the steps to be taken to minimise those risks (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that arrangements are in place for regular supervision and appraisals for all staff	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure staff are deployed effectively to supervise children in the outdoor play area.	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that rigorous recruitment procedures are in place to confirm staff's suitability to work with children, taking account of any information received about staff	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that the premises, specifically outdoor spaces, are fit for purpose; for example by ensuring that children are not at risk from uneven flooring with exposed sharp edges	07/08/2014	13/08/2014
ensure that robust risk assessments are carried out that clearly identify hazards within the environment; that all staff are aware of this information and the steps they must take to minimise risks, with specific regards to the outdoor play area	07/08/2014	13/08/2014