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Schools Out
Holy Trinity C of E Junior & Infant
School, Rear Of
11 Havelock Road, Handsworth
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Our Reference EY320674

Dear Dorothy Dixon

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Parm Sansoyer, monitored your provision on 19/09/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 14/05/2014, 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.

During the monitoring visit the inspector discussed with you the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She observed staff working with the children and had discussions with you and the staff. She looked at your risk assessments and a range of policies and procedures and records of staff supervision.

The inspector found that you have not developed a comprehensive action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection. For example, you have not developed an effective action plan, which includes in detail the tasks you need to do to carry out the action, evidence of success and when and how you will review progress and how you will sustain and monitor it. Therefore, prompt and effective action has not been taken in relation to the actions set to secure the children's safety when outdoors. You have had some support from your local authority, for example, one visit and advice via e-mails and the offer of staff training in child protection, healthy eating and physical exercise. However, this support has not resulted in developing an appropriate action plan to tackle all of the actions raised in the notice to improve.

The inspector found that the action taken to improve security measures to ensure

that children do not leave the premises unsupervised and to prevent unauthorised persons entering the provision has been insufficient. You informed the inspector that the main gate to the outdoor area, which leads directly onto the car park, cannot be locked. However, you have not explored any further options other than increasing the supervision of children, when outdoors. However, the inspector found that on the day of the visit the gate was left open by parents collecting their children from school and staff were not supervising the children while they played outdoors. You stated all staff have been informed of the procedure in place to ensure there is a member of staff on the gate at all times. However, this procedure was not followed on the day and on discussion with the staff they are not fully aware of the safety concerns highlighted in relation to the outdoor area. This is because the risk assessment conducted in relation to the security of the premises and the supervision of children in the outdoor area is not effective and not in writing. Consequently, it does not help inform staff of the actions required to remove or minimise risk and demonstrate how this risk will be managed. Therefore, prompt and effective action has not been taken to secure the children's safety.

The inspector found that you have spoken to the staff about making sure children are adequately supervised at all times and that staff deployment is effective to ensure children are safe when using the climbing frame. There is a written notice in place to inform staff to restrict the number of children using the climbing frame at any one time and you have insisted that a member of staff is always stood by the climbing frame. Staff are aware of this and this is adhered to, to secure the children's safety. However, by having a member of staff stood at the climbing frame and by the gate restricts how effectively staff can be deployed to meet the needs of other children. In addition, there are not effective contingency plans in place when the full quota of staff you deem necessary to supervise the children in this manner are not present, such as when they are collecting children from the local schools. Therefore, the procedures for the deployment of staff to make sure children are adequately supervised at all times is not always effective and children's safety cannot be assured.

The inspector found that you have introduced a system for staff supervision and have conducted one supervision session with all the staff. You have identified the main areas for improvement and are providing the staff with some further training and coaching to help support improvement. However, you acknowledged this is in the early stages and more time is required to see the full impact of this. The inspector found that you have placed a better focus on extending partnerships with the schools. For example, some of the staff also work at the schools the children attend and there is now a better two-way flow of information with the teachers about the children's care, education and welfare.

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

We will take enforcement action to ensure compliance with children's welfare and/or learning and development requirements.

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 children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	14/05/2014	19/09/2014
ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	14/05/2014	19/09/2014
ensure adult-to-child ratios are maintained at all times to meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety	14/05/2014	19/09/2014
conduct and implement effective supervision systems to ensure staff are provided with support, coaching and training to ensure continuous improvement of the provision and enhance their work with children	30/05/2014	19/09/2014
extend further the partnerships with other settings that children attend, to improve how information is shared and to complement their learning in the setting in which they spend more time.	30/05/2014	19/09/2014
ensure that risk assessments inform staff practice in removing or managing the risk and demonstrate how the risk will be managed, with particular regard to managing the security of the premises	22/10/2014	
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).	22/10/2014	
ensure that a child is unable to leave the premises unsupervised except 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).	22/10/2014	