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Big Stars Play Club
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Our Reference EY473082

Dear Claire Louise Stryczek

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Patricia Graham, monitored your provision on 13/03/2015 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 06/01/2015, 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.

This visit was the second monitoring visit since the setting was judged 'inadequate with enforcement' following the inspection of 6 January 2015.

During the monitoring visit, the inspector examined a range of documents and held discussions with the manager and the staff member who was also present during the visit. Children's activities were observed and informal discussions were held with the children during the morning session.

Significant improvements have been made since the last visit. The newly appointed manager has attended a relevant child-protection training course, which has enabled her to take full responsibility for safeguarding children. The safeguarding policy has been updated and now includes an explanation of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member. Moreover, an additional training course has been secured for all staff members to ensure that they have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues. As a result, safeguarding procedures have improved significantly.

The manager has been proactive and sought support from an external agency, and together they have a clear structure in place to ensure improvements are sustained. Staff members now receive ongoing support from the manager. Identifying and meeting their training needs are recognised as key to improving outcomes for

children. As a result, staff members are actively supported to undertake professional development opportunities. Identified training, together with qualifications they have already achieved, is clearly recorded in their personal development files. This enables the manager to evaluate the effectiveness of their practice and identify any areas needed to further improve their personal effectiveness.

The manager is acutely aware of the importance of partnership working to ensure that children are provided with activities and experiences that complement their learning at school. The manager and staff members have tried to make further links with the schools that children attend; however, this has not been as fruitful as anticipated. As a result, they have sought information from the schools' websites on current topics and themes, which they have incorporated into their planning. This approach is also supported by parents, who readily share information on forthcoming events celebrated at school, such as National Book Week. Therefore, children are able to make some links with learning at school and within the setting. These learning experiences were reflected in the children's views as they enthusiastically talked about their favourite book characters.

Although significant improvements have been made since the last visit, the manager and staff members are fully aware that more needs to be done to sustain these developments. As such, they have started to evaluate the effectiveness of their practice and the impact this has on outcomes for children. As a result of the findings of this visit, we have found that the provider has taken prompt and effective action to address the areas for improvement. Therefore, Ofsted intends to carry out a full inspection.

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 the safeguarding policy and procedure includes an explanation of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff, and that it is fully understood by staff who take charge in the absence of the lead practitioner	16/02/2015	23/02/2015
put appropriate arrangements in place for the supervision of staff in order to foster a culture of mutual support, teamwork and continuous improvement, which encourages the confidential discussion of sensitive issues	16/02/2015	23/02/2015
ensure that the safeguarding policy and procedures include an explanation of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff	27/02/2015	
ensure that the lead practitioner for safeguarding children attends a child protection training course that enables them to identify, understand and respond appropriately to any possible signs of abuse and neglect	12/03/2015	
ensure records are easily accessible and available for inspection and that these records include information about staff qualifications.	27/02/2015	
ensure the lead practitioner for safeguarding children attends a child protection training course	16/02/2015	23/02/2015
implement an effective system to ensure that staff, and any other person who is likely to have regular contact with children, are suitable	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
maintain records about staff qualifications, the identity checks and vetting processes that have been	30/01/2015	23/02/2015

completed, including the Disclosure and Barring Service reference number, the date the disclosure was obtained and details of who obtained it

ensure each child is assigned a key person who offers a settled relationship for the child and builds a relationship with their parents; the key person must help ensure that each child's care and learning are tailored to meet their individual needs	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
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ensure a record of the name, home address and telephone number of any person employed on the premises is maintained.	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
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keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
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keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
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implement an effective system to ensure that the registered person, the manager of the later years provision and 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 (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
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implement an effective system to ensure that the registered person, the manager of the later years provision and 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 (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
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establish links with maintained nurseries and schools that children attend in order to discuss with school staff/teachers the support that the club intends to offer	30/01/2015	23/02/2015
ensure the staff provide experiences for the children that are age appropriate and meet the needs of the individual children	30/01/2015	23/02/2015