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Early Years and Pre-School Centre
Bolton College
Deane Road
Bolton
Lancashire
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Our Reference EY415165

Dear Bolton College

Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate

An Ofsted inspector, Ann, Theresa Flynn, monitored your provision on 12/03/2015 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

Outcome of monitoring

As a result of our inspection on 12/02/2015, 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.

The welfare requirements notice required you to comply with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the following requirements: Safeguarding practice, training, support and skills, planning, observation and assessments, including children's progress checks at the age of two years. The steps you were required to take were detailed in full in the notice sent to you on 26 February 2015. We also issued you with a notice to improve, the actions you were set are included at the end of this letter.

A monitoring visit was undertaken on the 12 March 2015. As a result of discussions with the registered individual, the manager and various members of the staff team. Also through a review of documentation and observations, the inspector concluded that you have taken prompt and effective action in meeting the majority of the issues raised in both the welfare requirements notice and the notice of actions to improve. However, although you have made improvements and have met most of the issues raised, it is too early yet to see the impact of the improvements made on practice.

The inspector found that action taken in relation to safeguarding practice now ensures managers are kept informed by staff of any safeguarding concerns. Staff have improved their understanding of safeguarding, which has been helped by

weekly staff meetings, providing opportunities for staff to discuss and review safeguarding procedures. The recording of safeguarding concerns has been revised to ensure consistency, which results in safeguarding information being shared with managers. The safeguarding policy has been amended to meet requirements and the nappy changing area has been relocated to an area which allows nappy changing to be supervised. Therefore the review of safeguarding practice helps in keeping children safe from harm.

Action taken in relation to managers regularly checking how staff work has been improved. This results in staff having regular support and opportunities for discussion on how to improve their personal effectiveness and to identify their training needs.

A newly-introduced planning and assessment system is now in place, however it is too early yet to see if all children are making good progress and are being well enough prepared for the next stage in their learning or for school. Staff do not yet complete assessments for every two-year-old child and as a consequence, staff and parents have too little information about children's learning and development needs. However, staff have identified which children require a two year progress check and are to complete these checks in the very near future. Staff have recently started to plan what they want children to learn when playing outdoors, to ensure children are being involved in purposeful play. However, support offered by Early Years Local Authority staff in relation to planning for outdoor play is in it's infancy and therefore it is too early to see the impact of this support on practice.

The inspector found that action taken in relation to staff deployment and the daily routine has improved children's time for purposeful play. Staff deployment has been revised and the staff now sit with the children at snack and meal times, engaging in communication to help to develop children's language. Staff are now less concerned about tidying up and are more involved in teaching children.

A review of documentation relating to staff's qualifications and suitability checks has seen a much improved filing system. This results in a more organised and easily assessable way of keeping records.

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 majority of the areas for improvement. The next visit will be a further monitoring visit.

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 further monitoring.

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 records are easily accessible and available, especially in relation to staff's DBS disclosure information, child care qualifications and paediatric first aid training certificates	11/02/2015	
ensure all necessary steps are taken to keep children safe and well, especially during nappy changing	11/02/2015	
ensure the daily routine is organised well enough to provide sufficient time for purposeful play	11/03/2015	
ensure staff plan what they want children to learn when playing outdoors	11/02/2015	
ensure Ofsted are notified of any change to the person who is managing the early years provision	11/02/2015	
review staff deployment, especially when planned activities are undertaken to ensure the individual needs of all children are met.	11/02/2015	