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Elm Lane Day Nursery  
24 / 26 Church Street  
DAGENHAM  
Essex  
RM10 9UR

Our Reference EY363213

Dear Mrs Grace Funke Akinnugba

### **Outcome of monitoring visit for provision judged as inadequate**

An Ofsted inspector, Cheryl Langley, carried out a monitoring visit of your provision on 17/07/2013. This visit follows on from your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

#### **Outcome of the visit**

As a result of our inspection on 15/05/2013, we sent you a welfare requirements notice.

This notice required you to ensure staff understand and adhere to the nursery's safeguarding policies and procedures, including being alert and taking appropriate action in relation to any accident, incidents or injuries that occur when children are not in the nursery, to fully protect children; develop effective methods of risk assessment in order to minimise the risks of children accessing inappropriate areas of the nursery and ensure that all staff make every child feel safe and secure and their individual needs are met. The timescale for compliance was 15 July 2013.

You were also issued with a Notice to Improve which required you to ensure staff are able to ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and are able to build their capacity to learn and form relationships; make sure staff respond to each child's emerging needs and interests, guiding their development through warm positive interaction and ensure each area of learning and development is implemented through planned, purposeful play and through a mixture of adult-led and child-initiated activity with particular reference to the organisation of resources. The timescale for compliance was 31 July 2013.

Having considered all the evidence, the inspector is of the opinion that at this time the setting is making inadequate improvement overall.

## **Overall effectiveness of the improvement and outcomes for children**

At the monitoring visits conducted on 17 and 18 July 2013 we found that some action had been taken. Staff have been updated on the safeguarding policies and procedures which include taking immediate action if any concerns are identified in relation to accidents, injuries or marks children sustain outside of the nursery. There was also documentary evidence to show that staff have followed up concerns with the local authority safeguarding team about children that have been in their care to make sure relevant information is recorded to protect them in the future.

Action was taken to address the risks identified at the inspection, which included making sure cots were safe for use and that a door can be closed sufficiently to make a room inaccessible if required. However, potential risks that arose at the monitoring visit were not addressed until the regulatory inspector pointed them out. This included assessing the potential risk to children when using a large paddling pool and the risk of injury to a child sleeping on the floor when other children were running around in the same area. Appropriate action was taken which included making sure there was sufficient supervision in the outside and inside area when the paddling pool was in use, that any slip hazards were dealt with as soon as possible and toys and equipment were moved out of the way from the paddling pool and surrounding area. The sleeping child was taken into another room with a member of staff. This is an area of weakness and will be monitored at the next visit. To improve the provision for unsettled children a record of settling in and transition has been developed for children changing rooms. Action plans are drawn up each day which include what the child likes to make them feel more secure and engaged.

Staff training in different aspects of learning and development have begun, which include open ended questioning to challenge children and extend their play and thinking. Managers plan to monitor staff interaction with the children to assess for effectiveness. New planning has been implemented which include seven adult led activities and choices for the children have been improved to keep them engaged with play and purposeful activities. A member of staff has attended 'Letters and Sounds' training and other areas of development have been planned for. However at the monitoring visit there was little evidence of improvement during the observation of staff interaction with the children. Resources in the main play room have been rearranged to try to encourage choice and more space in the different areas of play. A further monitoring visit will take place.

## **Next steps**

Having considered all the evidence the inspector is of the opinion that at this time:

- The setting has made inadequate progress in addressing the points for improvement and this visit has raised serious concerns about aspects of welfare and/or learning and development. The next visit will be a further monitoring visit.

If you have any further queries please contact us on the number at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Susan Gregory HMI  
National Director, Inspection Delivery