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Mulberry Tree Kindergarten  
Cromhall Village Hall  
Talbot's End  
Cromhall  
South Gloucestershire  
GL12 8AJ

Our Reference EY463703

Dear The Mulberry Tree Steiner Early Years Group

### **Monitoring for provision judged as inadequate**

An Ofsted inspector, Linda Witts, monitored your provision on 08/05/2014 following your inspection where the provision was judged to be inadequate.

### **Outcome of monitoring**

As a result of our inspection on 10/02/2014, we sent you a notice to improve.

During the monitoring visit the inspector discussed the steps you have taken to address the actions raised in the notice to improve. She observed children enjoying part of the morning session and joined in with snack time and birthday celebrations. The inspector asked you to contact your local authority early years development worker but you did not have contact details available to initiate this. Instead she spoke to you about the support you have received from the local authority and looked at the action plan drafted by you and the development worker. The inspector also read extracts from your self-evaluation document and other relevant documentation, including risk assessment records. Risk assessment for outings was discussed at length.

The inspector found that you have developed a clear action plan to address the issues raised at your last inspection and that you have quickly implemented these plans.

The inspector found that all actions have been fully addressed. Risk assessments for outings have been reviewed. There remains a reliance on older children to follow staff instructions so that they remain between the adults at the front and rear of the group and to the edge of the country lanes. However, children show a clear understanding about the rules they must follow to stay safe. Clear guidance has been produced to share with visitors and parents to ensure they understand they must remain between the staff so as not to distract children. You confirmed that you only ever care for a maximum of two children aged two years or under. Your risk

assessment shows that when the young children are involved in outings one-to-one care and supervision is provided. The youngest child travels in a pram for added security. You confirmed that in the event that only two adults are present, and two children aged two or under attend, you will remain on site and engage in outdoor play, rather than engage in any planned outings. This is because you accept that there may be times during the outing that an adult may need to direct or stop traffic and this would affect their ability to offer continuous one-to-one care. In addition to the review of risk assessments for outings you have also reviewed risk assessment as a whole. In response to your findings additional security measures have been implemented to restrict children's access to the kitchen and the external exit. You have also worked with the hall committee to secure the outside area. Gates have been erected to the front of the premises. These create a barrier between the hall car park and roadway beyond. This shows a positive response to ensuring that children are kept safe. In response to the recommendation made at the last inspection you have also taken positive steps to improve your self-evaluation of the provision.

You have actively welcomed support from your local authority development worker. You report that she joined you on an outing and was happy with the safety precautions you take.

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