

Mrs N Pryddech
Chair of the Management Committee
Cylch Meithrin Tremeirchion
Tremeirchion
St Asaph
Denbighshire
LL17 0UN

10 August 2012

Dear Mrs Pryddech

Settings requiring monitoring by Estyn following an inspection – Cylch Meithrin Tremeirchion

As you know, Glyn Roberts, Additional Inspector and Eirwen Vogler, local authority officer, visited the setting recently in order to monitor the progress that has been made since the inspection in November 2010 and the subsequent monitoring visit in January 2012.

Outcome of the monitoring visit

It is judged that Cylch Meithrin Tremeirchion has made good progress in terms of the key issues for action following Estyn's visit in November 2010. We will now remove the name of the setting from the list of settings that need to be monitored by Estyn. There will be no further monitoring visits by Estyn in relation to this inspection.

In order to be able to make further progress, it may be useful for you and other members of the management committee to have a written summary of their findings.

Progress since the last inspection

R1 Develop further self-evaluation procedures that identify priorities for improvement clearly, especially ensuring that evaluations are more realistic in terms of the work of the setting, including strengths and areas to be developed.

The setting has addressed the recommendation to a large extent.

The setting has effective procedures for self-evaluation. The self-evaluation report identifies clearly the strengths of the setting and the areas that need to be developed.

The setting uses the findings of the self-evaluation appropriately to plan for improvement. The setting's improvement plan contains clear aims, the steps to be taken and those who are responsible for implementing them. The support that is available, the implementation timetable and who will be monitoring as well as the success criteria are also identified. Although this system is operational now and is a good basis for action for the future, there is not always enough detail on some aspects to be developed further within the self-evaluation.

R2 Ensure that tasks correspond well to children's ability and their previous attainment by using assessment information more effectively to plan the next stages in children's learning.

The setting has addressed this recommendation fully.

Good use is made of the new resources that were bought recently and a better challenge continues to be provided for children. Practitioners intervene appropriately in children's play in order to extend and reinforce learning and offer appropriate support to individuals.

There are effective procedures for assessing children's development in specific skills in addition to general developments. Sticky notes are used to record progress in specific skills. These numerous notes are included in the children's profiles and show development in skills across a period of time clearly.

Practitioners now make appropriate use of the assessment outcomes for forward planning. The records at the back of assessment sheets identify clearly what was learnt and the next stages for developing skills. The setting is successful in adapting provision in learning areas for responding to individuals' needs.

The setting continues to co-operate closely with the Language Development Officer of Mudiad Meithrin and is making good use of its Welsh language scheme in order to improve the practitioners' use of the Welsh language. The assistant practitioner continues to learn Welsh and is confident in her use of the language with children. This ensures that both practitioners can respond to children's oral efforts consistently and effectively.

R3 Continue to develop children's basic and key skills increasingly and ensure that planning reviews highlight what the children have learnt rather than what they have enjoyed.

The setting has addressed the recommendation fully.

Practitioners continue to plan conscientiously on the basis of children's needs. Weekly planning is appropriate and offers a purposeful focus on developing specific skills. Planning is now being evaluated appropriately by identifying what worked well and what could be improved and adaptations are being made on this basis.

More attractive areas have been created through considerable investment in high quality resources. In particular, a quiet area has been created for handling books and a role playing area. These ensure valuable opportunities for developing children's skills in general as well as communication skills in particular.

During the observation session, it was seen that planning influenced the quality of provision in the areas effectively. Practitioners use planning stages to give an appropriate focus to learning through purposeful intervention in line with individuals' needs. Often, practitioners were seen leading children towards specific tasks effectively.

Recommendations for improvement

In order to maintain this progress and improve upon it, the setting should:

- build on the system of recording evaluations, by offering more detail on the further steps to be taken; and
- ensure consistency in the nature of the records that are kept following assessments.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Corporate Director: Lifelong Learning, the chair of the EYDCP, CSSIW and the leader of the playgroup.

Yours sincerely



Mererid Wyn Williams
Assistant Director

cc Corporate Director Lifelong Learning
cc EYDCP
cc CSSIW
cc leader of the playgroup