



2013/0080195ETPO

**Edward Timpson MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families

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Your ref: JSP/KA/02333-2012

14 January 2014

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 11 December, addressed to the Secretary of State, enclosing a Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths, in relation to the inquest examining the death of Millie Thompson. I am replying as the minister responsible for this policy area.

Millie Thompson's death, while in the care of Ramillies Nursery in Cheadle Hulme, was a tragedy. I note that amongst your concerns about this case that you take the view that all staff working in nurseries should be subject to mandatory paediatric first aid training. The safety of children whilst being cared for by others is of paramount importance and staff with paediatric first aid training should always be available.

Paediatric first aid training is, and will remain, a statutory requirement for all early years providers regulated under the Childcare Act 2006. The requirements for early years providers, including nurseries, are set out in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). At least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate must be on the premises at all times when children are present, and must accompany children on outings.

In July 2013 we published plans to further improve the quality and availability of childcare. In tandem with this publication, the Government launched a public consultation, "The Regulation of Childcare", which ran from 16 July to 30 September 2013. The consultation sought views on proposals to amend the current childcare regulatory system and set out the measures needed to ensure children's safety. As part of that, we proposed to reinforce the need that a first-aid trained member of staff must be available at all times.

We also proposed to say more in the EYFS about the specific content of suitable courses. We expect to be able to publish the results of the consultation shortly during February 2014 and make any changes needed later this year.

Yours sincerely,

Edward

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