[Address of sender]

[Date]

[Address of recipient]

Dear [insert Manager, Key Worker or other name here]

I am writing to ask for some information about inclusive practise in your setting.

There is a range of guidance and recommendations about inclusivity, equality and diversity for Early Years settings which regularly reference the nine Protected Characteristics (Equality Act, 2010) including sexual orientation, sex and marriage and civil partnership. The Early Years Statutory Framework lists equality as one of its four aims for provision:

‘The EYFS seeks to provide…equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that every child is included and supported’ (Statutory Framework for the EYFS framework, 2021)

This guidance in the Equality Act is relevant for pupils who have association with another person who has a protected characteristic such as a sibling, parent or carer. I identify as [insert characteristic here] and am interested to find out more about your setting’s approach to inclusivity and that as we build a parent partnership, your setting value the diversity of all families in a way that is not only recognised but also celebrated.

I would like to ask for some more information about how you plan to support children’s understanding of diversity including some of the books, images and resources which you have in your setting that address these issues.

The Development Matters Curriculum Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage, 2020 gives some clear points for practitioners to support children with in their learning related to inclusivity. The section about ‘Understanding the World’ references two key points for children ages birth-3 to explore:

*“Make connections between the features of their family and other families - Be open to children talking about differences and what they notice”*

*And*

*“Notice differences between people - Model positive attitudes about the differences between people. Support children’s acceptance of difference. Have resources which include: - positive images of people who are disabled - books and play materials that reflect the diversity of life in modern Britain - materials which confront gender stereotypes” (*The Development Matters Curriculum Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage, 2020)

By age 3-4 the guidance recommends that staff support children to ‘Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.’

I would also like some information about the ways in which your staff are trained to support inclusive practise in unplanned moments. As a family we work hard to ensure conversations and responses to questions from our child/ children, and others, are carefully thought about in order to foster and develop an appreciation for diversity. We recognise that this is our role alongside childcare and other organisations. This quote clarifies the expectation in one of Ofsted’s four judgement headings called Personal Development to be judged as Good:

*“The provider prepares children for life in modern Britain by: equipping them to be respectful and to recognise those who help us and contribute positively to society; developing their understanding of fundamental British values; developing their understanding and appreciation of diversity; celebrating what we have in common and promoting respect for different people.” (Early Years Inspection Handbook for Ofsted Registered Provision, OFSTED, 2021)*

I am sure that your setting values all families, genders, parenthood, marriage and family units. It is important to me that my child is cared for in a setting which understands each families’ individual makeup including the many ways in which children have joined their families for example looked after and previously looked after children.

My family …[insert personal circumstances here if you wish to include these in the letter]

Should you feel your staff and pupils require additional support and training to develop inclusivity, this website has some valuable resources and training available: <https://www.proud2bparents.co.uk/>

I would appreciate it if you could share some specific information about inclusivity in your setting or signpost me to an area of your website/ policies etc where I will be able to find out more. I look forward to hearing from you. [if you would like to enter into further discussion with the school and would value being part of a conversation to develop inclusive practise you could add here: and I would be happy to engage in further conversation with yourself or members of your staff team about the inclusive practise in your setting.]

Kind regards,

[name]