

Foresight injects development capital into dynamic regional nursery business, Peekaboo

- **Growing nursery business pursues expansion strategy**

London: 12 April 2016 - Foresight Group ("Foresight") has invested development capital into the ambitious nursery group Peekaboonursery.info Limited ("Peekaboo" or "the Group") to fund the rollout strategy.

Founded in 2009, Peekaboo has already established a chain of four day nurseries, with the fifth opening shortly, all in the North-West of England. Foresight is excited by the opportunity to build a leading childcare group through a mixture of bolt-on acquisitions and new openings in a growing and highly fragmented market.

Founder and entrepreneur, Sarah Bellamy, who has a strong commercial background from previous roles as Digital Director of Guardian Media Group and Head of Commercial and Business Development at Endemol, will continue to drive the business forward as Managing Director. She will be joined on the board by chairwoman, Denise Burke, ex-CEO of Small-steps, the largest childcare nursery chain in the Netherlands with more than 250 nurseries.

The UK childcare market has grown significantly over the last decade and is now thought to be worth over £5 billion per annum. The nursery sector is highly fragmented and has a number of positive underlying drivers, including the highest number of working families in the country since 1996, a trend towards the use of nurseries rather than informal childcare from family and friends, in addition to increasing government support for the sector because of the benefit to the UK economy.

Sarah Bellamy, Managing Director, Peekaboo, commented: *"I'm really excited by the direction and growth prospects that we are able to pursue with this additional growth capital. I am delighted to be working alongside Foresight and Denise Burke to drive the growth of the business in this dynamic market. With the funds and support from Foresight, we can take Peekaboo from a local business to a UK leader of excellence in early years' childcare."*

Lizzie Ryan, Investment Manager, Foresight Group, commented: *"Peekaboo is a dynamic business with strong growth prospects and a clear strategy in a growing market. This is a compelling opportunity to build a leading brand in the highly fragmented day nursery sector. By combining the expertise and knowledge that Foresight has in growing small businesses with the operational and sector experience of the management team, we will go from strength to strength in the coming years."*

Advisers on the deal included:

- Legal advisers: Browne Jacobson
- Financial advisers: Mazars
- Operational advisers: Reflections

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PRESS RELEASE



About Foresight Group

Foresight Group is a leading infrastructure and private equity investment manager which has been managing investment funds on behalf of institutions and retail clients for over 30 years.

Foresight has £1.8 billion of assets under management across a number of funds, including Listed Vehicles, Limited Partnerships, Enterprise Investment Schemes (EISs) and Venture Capital Trusts (VCTs).

Foresight's Private Equity team, comprising thirteen investment professionals, manages a portfolio of more than 35 companies, typically investing up to £5m equity in UK SMEs through offices in London, Nottingham and Manchester.

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