

The revised Early Years Foundation Stage – April 2017

On 3 March 2017, Caroline Dinenage, MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Women, Equalities and Early Years, announced that a revised EYFS would be published later that day and enforced from Monday 3 April 2017.

This document will help you identify the key changes in the 2017 framework.

1. EYFS summary

- ★ This section includes a new paragraph which clarifies which elements of the EYFS are requirements (indicated by the word “must”) and which are provisions which providers must have regard to (indicated by the word “should”).

2. EYFS section 1 – learning and development

- ★ Paragraph 1.1 – footnote 5 has been amended to clarify the position for providers who offer exclusively “out of school hours” care for children younger than the Reception class age range.
- ★ Paragraph 1.5 includes a link to the Chief Medical Officer’s guidance on physical activity for children.

3. Section 3 – safeguarding and welfare requirements

- ★ Paragraph 3.7 (child protection) includes references to new and updated guidance and advice from government, published since the last EYFS framework in 2014: Prevent Duty Guidance 2015; Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.
- ★ Paragraph 3.23 (staff qualifications, training, support and skills) includes new information setting out the literacy and numeracy qualification requirements for level 3 early years educator (EYE) staff. As was announced on 3 March, childcarers must have a suitable level 2 qualification in English and maths to be counted in the ratios – not necessarily a GCSE.
- ★ Paragraph 3.25 (paediatric first aid) states that all newly qualified practitioners at level 2 and above must gain a full or emergency paediatric first aid qualification within three months in order to count in the setting ratios.

- ★ 3.37 (ratios) a new footnote includes detail for school-based childcare settings run by the governing body (under section 27 of the Education Act 2002). This change was previously communicated to Ofsted and local authorities in 2015.
- ★ Paragraph 3.42 (childminders) includes a further example of when exceptions to usual ratios may be made to maintain continuity of care.
- ★ Paragraph 3.45 (medicines) has been updated to clarify that prescription medicines must not be administered unless they have been prescribed for a child by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist.
- ★ Minor amendments have been made to Paragraphs 3.10, 3.41, 3.63 and 3.77. These are as a result of section 76 of the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 and reflects that since 1 January 2016, Ofsted-registered childminders and providers of childcare on domestic premises have been able to operate from suitable non-domestic premises for up to 50% of their time without the need for separate registration.



EYFS 2017

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