

Parent Information



What is the EYFS?

The Early Years Foundation Stage is a framework for children up to the age of five, setting out six key areas of learning around which activities should be based.

What does the EYFS cover?

It covers the welfare and development of children.

The welfare section covers:

- Basic checks, such as ensuring staff have undergone all relevant security checks
- Facilities and equipment safe and suitable for children
- Quality of the environment, for example, it recommends there should be some access to outdoor space

The development section covers:

Prime Areas

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication and language
- Physical development

Specific Areas

- Expressive arts and design
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world

Where does the EYFS apply?

All childcare providers except mother and toddler groups, nannies and short-term crèches have to be registered and inspected by Ofsted, the Office for Standards in Education. The EYFS, therefore, applies to:

- Reception and nursery classes in maintained and independent schools
- Day nurseries
- Childminders
- Playgroups
- After school and breakfast clubs
- Holiday playschemes
- Children's Centres

In England a parent can ask a childcare provider for their Ofsted unique registration number (URN) and use this to check their registration on Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Inspection-reports.

How will I know how my child is doing?

EYFS guidelines state that your child should have a 'key person' at nursery, pre-school or reception class, who is responsible for putting together information on how your child is developing. You can ask to see this information, share your own impressions and build on what your child is learning at home.

How can I find out more?

To find out more, visit www.direct.gov.uk/eyfs