

Changes to the EYFS Statutory Framework for group and school- based providers

Effective from 1 November 2024

Summary

Was	Now	What this means for you
<p>About this statutory framework This Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework is mandatory for all group and school-based early years providers¹ in England from 4 January 2024.</p>	<p>About this statutory framework This Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework for group and school-based early years providers is mandatory for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all persons registered in England with Ofsted in the early years register, or with an early years childminder agency (CMA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o to provide early years childcare on domestic premises (CoDPs) ; or o to provide early years childcare on non-domestic premises (CoNDPs); (referred to collectively in this EYFS framework as ‘group-based early years providers’); and • All schools and independent educational institutions in England who provide early years provision in respect of which they are exempt from registration by section 34(2) of the Childcare Act 2006⁴ (referred to in this EYFS framework as ‘school-based early years providers’). This EYFS framework refers to all of the above collectively as ‘providers’, unless otherwise stated. 	<p>Wording changed to clarify which providers this framework is mandatory for and that these types listed are collectively called providers throughout.</p>

Section 3 – The safeguarding and welfare requirements

Was	Now	What this means for you
<p>3.37 In settings on the early years register, the manager of the setting must hold an approved qualification of level 3 or above and at least half of all other staff must hold at least an approved level 2 qualification. Managers appointed on or after 1 January 2024 must have already achieved a suitable level 2 qualification in maths or must do so within two years of starting in the position. Managers are responsible for ensuring staff have the right level of maths knowledge to effectively deliver the EYFS curriculum. Managers should have at least two years' experience of working in an early years setting, or have at least two years' other suitable experience. The provider must ensure there is a named deputy who, in their judgement, is capable and qualified to take charge in the manager's absence.</p>	<p>3.37 In settings on the early years register, the manager of the setting must hold an approved qualification of level 3 or above and at least half of all other staff must hold at least an approved level 2 qualification. An approved qualification is defined by the Department for Education as meeting the criteria set out in the Early Years Qualification Requirements and Standards document. Approved qualifications are published on the Early Years Qualifications List on GOV.UK. Managers appointed on or after 4 January 2024 must have already achieved a suitable level 2 qualification in maths or must do so within two years of starting in the position. This also applies to existing managers moving to a new managerial role. Managers are responsible for ensuring staff have the right level of maths knowledge to effectively deliver the EYFS curriculum. Managers should have at least two years' experience of working in an early years setting, or have at least two years' other suitable experience. The provider must ensure there is a named deputy who, in their judgement, is capable and qualified to take charge in the manager's absence</p>	<p>Changes in wording to clarify the requirements of managers qualifications and where to find the criteria of approved qualifications.</p>

Section 3 – The safeguarding and welfare requirements

Was	Now	What this means for you
<p>3.38 To count within the ratios at level 3, staff holding an Early Years Educator qualification must also have achieved a suitable level 2 qualification in English. An approved qualification is defined by the Department for Education as meeting the criteria set out in the Early Years Qualification Requirements and Standards document. Approved qualifications will be published on the Early Years Qualifications List published on GOV.UK.</p>	<p>3.38 To count within the ratios at level 3, staff holding an Early Years Educator qualification must also have achieved a suitable level 2 qualification in English.</p>	<p>The paragraph about approved qualifications has been moved the the above point.</p>
<p>3.42/3/4/5, ...a person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status, or another approved level 6 qualification...</p>	<p>The words ‘or another approved level 6 qualification’ have been removed throughout the Staff: child ratios section.</p>	<p>This clarifies the qualification requirements for staff counting in the level 6 staff:child ratios in early years settings. You should refer to the Guidance: Check early years qualifications</p>
<p>3.49 Suitable students on long term placements and volunteers (aged 17 or over) and staff working as apprentices in early education (aged 16 or over) may be included in the ratios at the level below their level of study, if the provider is satisfied that they are competent and responsible.</p>	<p>3.49 Suitable students on long term placements, volunteers (aged 17 or over) and staff working as apprentices in early education (aged 16 or over) may be included in the ratios at the level below their level of study, if the provider is satisfied that they are competent and responsible. Except in the case of apprentices, only those aged 17 and over may be included in the ratios and only if they are suitable as in paragraphs 3.9 to 3.15 (and staff under 17 should be supervised at all times).</p>	<p>Additional wording to clarify the ratio requirements for apprentices and supervision requirements for all staff under 17. You should consider how this requirement will impact</p>

Section 3 – The safeguarding and welfare requirements

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<p>3.61 Providers must have arrangements in place to support children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Maintained schools, maintained nursery schools and all providers who are funded by the local authority to deliver early education places must take into account the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. Maintained schools and maintained nursery schools must identify a member of staff to act as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and other providers (in group provision) are expected to identify a SENCO. Providers may find it helpful to familiarise themselves with the early years section of the SEND Code of Practice.</p>	<p>3.61 Early years providers must have arrangements in place to support children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Maintained schools, academies and maintained nursery schools are required⁵⁰ to identify a member of staff to act as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and other providers (in group provision) are expected to identify a SENCO. Maintained schools, academies and maintained nursery schools and all providers who are funded by the local authority to deliver early education places are required to have regard to the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice. Other providers may find it helpful to familiarise themselves with the early years section of the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice.</p>	<p>Providers delivering funded entitlements now, must have regard for the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice. Resource: Caring for children with Special Educational Needs (England) Exclusive PACEY members resources including bite-sized training: Supporting children's additional need</p>
<p>3.87 All registered early years providers must notify Ofsted of any change: • In the address of the premises (and seek approval to operate from those premises where appropriate).</p>	<p>3.87 All registered early years providers must notify Ofsted of any change: • In the address of the premises (and must obtain prior approval to operate from those premises where appropriate).</p>	<p>Clarification to the changes that must be notified to Ofsted - approval to operate from any non-domestic premises must have prior approval.</p>

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