

EYFS statutory framework (last updated version 1st November 2024)

for group and school-based providers

3.1 Children learn best when they are healthy, safe, secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the people caring for them.

Training and Skills

3.62 Induction training must include information about emergency evacuation procedures, safeguarding, child protection, and health and safety issues.

Ratios

3.35 Staffing arrangements must meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety.

Safety of premises

3.65 Providers must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff, and others on the premises in the case of fire or any other emergency.

Providers must have:

- An emergency evacuation procedure.
- Appropriate fire detection and control equipment (for example, fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire blankets and/or fire extinguishers) which is in working order. Fire exits must be clearly identifiable, and fire doors free of obstruction and easily opened from the inside.

for childminders

3.1 Children learn best when they are healthy, safe, secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the people caring for them.

Training, support and skills

3.24 What childminders and childminder assistants know, plan for, and do, matters for children's learning, development, safety, and happiness in settings. Childminders must have appropriate skills, knowledge, and a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities in order to provide good quality early years provision.

Training and supervision of assistants' skills

3.31 Childminders must ensure that assistants receive induction training to help them understand their roles and responsibilities. Induction training must include information about emergency evacuation procedures, safeguarding, child protection, and health and safety issues.

Staff: child ratios

3.39 Staffing arrangements must meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety

Safety of premises

3.64 Childminders must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, assistants, and others on the premises in the case of fire or any other emergency.

Childminders must have:

- An emergency evacuation procedure.
- Appropriate fire detection and control equipment (for example, fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire blankets and/or fire extinguishers) which is in working order. Fire exits must be clearly identifiable, and fire doors free of obstruction and easily opened from the inside.

Safety on outings

3.74 Children must be kept safe while on outings. Providers must assess potential risks or hazards for the children and must identify the steps to be taken to remove, minimise, and manage those risks and hazards. The assessment must include consideration of staff to child ratios. The risk assessment does not necessarily need to be in writing; this is up to providers.

Organising premises for confidentiality and safeguarding

3.72 Providers must ensure:

- They take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises and have an agreed procedure for checking the identity of visitors.

Information about the child

3.81 Providers must record the following information for each child in their care

- Emergency contact details for parents and/or carers.

Information for parents and carers

3.82 Providers must share the following information with parents and/or carers:

- A telephone number for parents and/or carers to contact the provider in an emergency.

Risk assessment

3.76 Providers must ensure that they take all reasonable steps to ensure staff and children in their care are not exposed to risks and must be able to demonstrate how they are managing risks. Providers must determine where it is helpful to make some written risk assessments in relation to specific issues, to inform staff practice, and to demonstrate how they are managing risks if asked by parents and/or carers or inspectors.

Safety on outings

3.73 Children must be kept safe while on outings. Childminders must assess potential risks or hazards for the children and must identify the steps to be taken to remove, minimise, and manage those risks and hazards. The assessment must include consideration of staff to child ratios. The risk assessment does not necessarily need to be in writing; this is up to childminders.

Organising premises for confidentiality and safeguarding

3.71 Childminders must ensure that

- They take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises* and have an agreed procedure for checking the identity of visitors.

**Where childminders are operating in non-domestic premises which is routinely accessed by members of the public (e.g. a hotel or community centre), childminders must take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the part of those premises where children are being cared for.*

Information about the child

3.80 Childminders must record the following information for each child in their care:

- Emergency contact details for parents and/or carers.

Information for parents and carers

3.81 Childminders must share the following information with parents and/or carers:

- A telephone number for parents and/or carers to contact the childminder in an emergency.

Risk assessment

3.75 Childminders must ensure that they take all reasonable steps to ensure that children in their care, and any assistants, are not exposed to risks and must be able to demonstrate how they are managing risks. Childminders must determine where it is helpful to make some written risk assessments in relation to specific issues, to inform their practice, and to demonstrate how they are managing risks if asked by parents and/or carers or inspectors.

Risk assessments should identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, when and by whom those aspects will be checked, and how the risk will be removed or minimised.

Changes that must be notified to Ofsted

3.87 All registered early years providers must notify Ofsted of any change:

Any significant event which is likely to affect the suitability of the early years provider to look after children.

Other Legal Duties

3.90 The EYFS requirements sit alongside other legal obligations and do not supersede or replace any other legislation which providers must still meet.

For example, where provision is taking place in maintained schools there is other legislation in place with which headteachers, teachers and other practitioners must comply with.

Other duties on providers include: • Employment laws. • Anti-discriminatory legislation. • Health and safety legislation. • Duty of care.

Risk assessments should identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, when and by whom those aspects will be checked, and how the risk will be removed or minimised.

Changes that must be notified to Ofsted or the relevant childminder agency (CMA)

3.86 Depending on how they are registered, all childminders must, as soon as reasonably practicable but in any event within 14 days of the change, notify either Ofsted or their CMA of any change:

- Any significant event which is likely to affect the suitability of the childminder to look after children

Other Legal Duties

3.87 The EYFS requirements sit alongside other legal obligations and do not supersede or replace any other legislation which childminders must still meet. Other duties on providers include:

- Employment laws.
- Anti-discrimination legislation.
- Health and safety legislation.
- Data collection regulations⁴¹.
- Duty of care.