

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Setting the standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five.

Published: 3rd March 2017

Effective: 3rd April 2017

Changes in the document from last published document (published March 2014 and effective September 2014)

Summary: About this statutory framework (page 3)

- A third paragraph has been added to this section. This paragraph explains which sections in the framework are a “must” for settings and which sections “should” be taken into consideration.

Section 1: The learning and development requirements (page 7)

- 1:1 the footnote (5) has been edited to state that practitioners that exclusively care for children in after school care, before school care and in the holidays, that are under Reception age, should be guided by these requirements.
- 1:5 adds footnote (6) to highlight guidance published on physical activity by the Chief Medical Office.

Section 3: The safeguarding and welfare requirements (page 16)

- 3:7 has been updated to highlight new legislation including, ‘Working together to safeguard children 2015’ (footnote 15), ‘Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales 2015’ (footnote 16) and ‘Keeping children safe in education’ (footnote 18).
- 3:23 has a footnote (29) which outlines the literacy and numeracy requirements for all Level 3 staff. In order for staff to count in ratios at Level 3, they must also have suitable level 2 English and Maths qualifications.
- 3:25 states that all newly qualified entrants, who have completed level 2 or level 3 qualifications on or after 30th June 2016, must also have a Paediatric First Aid qualification if they are to be included in the ratios at level 2 or level 3. The course content for Paediatric First Aid Qualifications has been set out in Annex A of the EYFS.
- 3:37 footnote (39) explains new ratios for schools that have provision run by the Governing Body for 3 and 4 year olds. This ratio is 1:13 when a level 6 practitioner is working directly with the children. The ratio is 1:8 where a level 6 practitioner is not working directly with the children but at least one member of staff is level 3.
- 3.42 adds a further example of when childminders can have an exception to the usual ratios - “to maintain continuity of care”.
- 3:45 has been amended to make it clear that prescription medicine “must not be administered unless prescribed” by a professional.

Changes made due to the ‘Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015’ (3:10, 3:41, 3:63, 3:77)

- Childminders registered with Ofsted, childminder agencies and domestic childcare providers can now run their childcare from suitable non-domestic premises for half the time without the need to register separately.