



Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

What is it?

The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a central part of the Government's 10 year childcare strategy. The Childcare Act 2006 provides the context for the delivery of the EYFS. The EYFS will be central to improving outcomes and reducing inequalities.

The EYFS has replaced Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage, the Birth to Three Matters framework, and the National Standard for Under 8s Daycare and Childminding.

It is mandatory for all schools and early years providers in Ofsted registered settings attended by young children, that is children from birth to the end of the academic year in which a child has a fifth birthday, to deliver the framework.

This includes:

- Maintained schools
- Non-maintained schools
- Independent schools
- Childcare registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register
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All early years providers must meet these requirements regardless of type, size or funding of the setting.

How is it implemented?

From September 2008 it is the legal responsibility of these providers to meet Section 40 of the Childcare Act and ensure that their setting meets the learning and development requirements and complies with the Welfare regulations.

What is required?

Policy and procedures are required to meet EYFS welfare standards and other relevant legislation e.g. The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992.

The EYFS sets standards to enable early years providers to reflect the enriched experience that many parents give their children at home.

See Below table to understand how the Welfare Standards and EYFS links to The Every Child Matters Agenda.

Welfare Requirements (EYFS)	Welfare Requirements	Every Child Matters
Safe guarding and promoting children's welfare	Safeguarding Information and complaints Premises and Security Outings Equality of Opportunities Medicines Illness and injuries Food and Drink Smoking Behaviour Management	Staying Safe Achieve Economic Wellbeing Staying Safe Staying Safe Making a positive contribution Being Healthy Being Healthy Being Healthy Achieve Economic Wellbeing Making a positive contribution
Suitable people	Safe Recruitment Alcohol/other substances	Achieve Economic Wellbeing Achieve Economic Wellbeing
Suitable premises, environment and Equipment	Physical Environment Risk Assessment Premises	Staying Safe Staying Safe Staying Safe
Organisation	Organisation	Achieve Economic Wellbeing