

The requirements of the Early Years Register

A childcare factsheet

Childminders and childcare providers registered on the Early Years Register must meet the legal requirements as set out in the Childcare Act 2006 and associated regulations in order to remain registered.

The law establishes the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) as the framework for the care and education of children in the early years age group – children aged from birth until the 31 August after their fifth birthday – that all those registered on the Early Years Register must deliver.

The legal requirements that you must meet for the welfare, learning and development of young children are set out in the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage*. This is included in the EYFS pack.

You can order the pack from the Department for Children, Schools and Families publications centre on 0845 6022260. The pack contains the statutory framework, practice guidance, poster and cards; these can also be downloaded from the EYFS website (www.standards.dcsf.gov.uk/eyfs/site/resource/pdfs.htm). The pack also has a CD-ROM with resources from the EYFS website (www.standards.dcsf.gov.uk/eyfs/site/index.htm).

Part of the legal welfare requirements sets out certain things that you must tell us about. Wherever possible, you must tell us in advance. Otherwise, you must inform us as soon as reasonably practicable after the change of details/incident has occurred and in all cases within 14 days of the change of details/incident occurring.

We have set below what you must tell us about.

- Any change in the name or address of the childminder or the childcare provider.
- Any change in the name or registered number or registered address of a company or charity providing childcare.
- Any change to the address of the premises where the childcare is provided.
- The details of any changes to the premises where the childcare takes place. This includes changes that affect the space available or the quality of care available. One example is building work to extend or change premises.

- Any intention to change the hours that you provide childcare where such a change involves overnight care.
- The details of any allegations of serious harm to or abuse of a child by any person living, working or caring for children at the premises where the care is provided. The allegations of serious harm or abuse may have occurred on the premises or elsewhere. You must also tell us about any other alleged abuse that might have happened on the childcare premises. Whenever you give us this information you also need to tell us about the action you have taken.
- The details of any serious accident, serious illness, injury to, or death of, any child in your care and the action you have taken in response. As a general rule serious accidents and injuries are those requiring treatment by a medical practitioner. Serious illnesses, such as meningitis, are normally notifiable diseases: they are not the usual childhood illnesses such as chicken pox.
- Details of any incident of food poisoning where two or more children cared for on the premises are affected.
- Details of any other significant event that is likely to affect the suitability of the provider or any person who cares for, or is in regular contact with, children on the premises. For example, this could be a change in circumstances affecting a provider's physical or mental ability to care for children.
- Any change to the manager of the childcare provision – not for childminders.
- Any change of people aged 16-years or older living or working on the premises where the care is provided, including where children attain their sixteenth birthday. Working on the premises means that their work is done in the part of the premises where the care takes place and during the times when care takes place – childcare providers on domestic premises and childminders only.

More information from Ofsted

There is more information on our website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. The *Framework for the regulation of those on the Early Years and Childcare Registers* (www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/080024) is a general overview of our work.

You can telephone us on 08456 404040 or email us at enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

Other sources of information

You can contact your local authority which has a duty to give you help and support. You can find the telephone number in your local directory or by visiting www.dcsf.gov.uk/localauthorities/index.cfm?action=authority. You can also contact your family information service: www.familyinformationservices.org.uk/contactcis/england/index.htm, or look in your telephone directory.

The law that sets out our duty is the Childcare Act 2006 (www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/ukpga_20060021_en_1) and associated regulations. Sections 39 to 41 set out the duty to implement the EYFS: www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006/ukpga_20060021_en_4#pt3-ch2-pb3. You may also wish to see The Early Years Foundation Stage (Learning and Development Requirements) Order 2007 (2007 No 1772) (www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20071772_en_1) and The Early Years Foundation Stage (Welfare Requirements) Regulations 2007 (2007 No. 1771) (www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20071771_en_1).

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

Alexandra House
33 Kingsway
London WC2B 6SE
T 08456 404040

www.ofsted.gov.uk

Published: August 2008

Reference no. 080162

© Crown Copyright 2008