**Children and Families, Early Years Division**

**Weekly News Bulletin: 7April 2021**



[**New EYFS framework published**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=4d72682a1c&e=fcdf2b283c)

**The Department for Education (DfE) have confirmed that the reforms to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) will be rolled out nationally from September 2021.**

The [**new EYFS statutory framework**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=997e7531aa&e=fcdf2b283c) has been published and legislation laid in Parliament. This is the revised and final EYFS framework that all **registered nurseries, childminders, schools and pre-schools** in England will follow from **1 September 2021**.

Early years settings, other than registered EYFS reforms early adopters (who must continue to follow the [**early adopter framework**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=a90e55c7ad&e=fcdf2b283c)) must continue to follow the current EYFS framework until **1 September 2021**, however the revised framework is being made available for all settings now to help them prepare for the changes.

There are also a number of small amendments to section 3 safety and welfare to make existing requirements clearer and to provide updates. A summary of these amendments and why they have been made can be found [**here**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=33ceafe106&e=fcdf2b283c).

[**New vodcasts on the revised EYFS**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=a1f2d1bf46&e=fcdf2b283c)

**Earlier today, the Department for Education (DfE) published the new Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework to be used from 1 September 2021 and a summary of amendments to the safety and welfare requirements in the EYFS. More information can be found** [**here**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=d707848cdf&e=fcdf2b283c).

We are now pleased to share with you two new vodcasts bringing the latest information on the revised EYFS in one place.

The [**first vodcast**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=24a42cdbc1&e=fcdf2b283c) is aimed at **headteachers, senior leadership and governors**, and includes presentations and a Q&A from DfE and Ofsted as well as an interview with Clare Lishman, Director of Early Years at the Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust, about her experiences as a senior leader during the early adopter year.

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The [**second vodcast**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=7a0bb848a1&e=fcdf2b283c) is aimed at **Private, Voluntary and Independent settings (PVIs) and childminders** and includes presentations from DfE, Dr Julian Grenier and Ofsted as well as an interview with Vicky Dewar, Nursery Teacher at the Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust, about her experiences of the early adopter year.

You can find more information on the revised EYFS [**here**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=c6f4af6b48&e=fcdf2b283c) and on the updated Development Matters [**here**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=03e1578efc&e=fcdf2b283c)

**Further support for implementation**

Government understands that reforms to the EYFS, in particular on curriculum expectations and assessment requirements, will in many cases require behaviour change that will take time to implement and become effectively established.

Therefore, to support the sector as they prepare to implement the reforms, DfE are providing a suite of supporting materials, including the above vodcasts for school leadership and practitioners and launching a new online support package for PVIs and childminders, as well as revising the EYFSP Handbook.

Support that is already available includes:

* The Department's new non statutory curriculum guidance [**Development Matters**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=85de7eb9ab&e=fcdf2b283c) published on 3 September 2020. This document provides a top-level view of how children develop and learn and guides but does not replace, professional judgement. The department has sought feedback from early adopters on this and will consider making refinements ahead of statutory roll out of the reforms.

Foundation Years recently hosted free Learn - Explore - Debate events focused on the revised EYFS with sessions on reducing unnecessary workload and self-regulation in the early years. The recordings and case studies from the events can be found [**here**](https://ncb.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37&id=6c7124d454&e=fcdf2b283c)

## [**Early years foundation stage (EYFS) statutory framework**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=65b6ed2e-7aeb-4e01-b38f-f6a0569b42df&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary**:
The standards that school and childcare providers must meet for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5.

**Change made:**Added a new statutory framework for the early years foundation stage which applies from 1 September 2021. Until then, the current framework applies.

**Time updated:**11:24am, 31 March 2021

[**Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=dc0428ca-8f24-4911-ad75-1a424dd9ff31&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary:**
What all schools will need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

**Change made:**Guidance updated to reflect the DHSC announcement that a confirmatory PCR test is required following a positive LFD test result in England.

**Time updated:**
9:28am, 31 March 2021

[**Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=1c5ba000-6298-4c47-a910-f60937424d17&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary**:
What childcare services early years settings, childminders and local authorities need to provide during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

**Change made**:
Converted the ‘Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak’ from PDF to HTML. This version has been updated to reflect the DHSC announcement that a confirmatory PCR test is required following a positive LFD test result in England.

**Time updated:**6:20pm, 31 March 2021

## [**National Skills Fund**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-skills-fund?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=96fea659-9c8e-42ed-a1ef-4645b41dc1e5&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary**:
An overview of the National Skills Fund which aims to help adults to train and gain the valuable skills they need to improve their job prospects and support the economy.

**Change made:**
Updated to reflect that free level 3 qualifications for adults are now available.

**Time updated:**12:15am, 1 April 2021

## [**Find a free level 3 qualification**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/find-a-free-level-3-qualification?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=98088864-9d66-4d9c-a1fb-b0021cad4862&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary**:
Details of free level 3 qualifications available to eligible adults and the colleges and training providers who are currently able to offer free places.

**Change made:**First published.

**Time updated:**
12:15am, 1 April 2021

## [**Hundreds of free qualifications on offer to boost skills and jobs**](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hundreds-of-free-qualifications-on-offer-to-boost-skills-and-jobs?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=53285a9a-d537-4340-b6a0-6e5f27effe69&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary:**Launch of free qualifications marks a major milestone in government’s Lifetime Skills Guarantee

**Change made:**
First published.

**Time updated:**12:15am, 1 April 2021



## **Ofsted inspection arrangements for the summer term**

Ofsted has set out plans for its inspections for the summer term, in advance of an intended full resumption of its programme of routine, graded inspections in September. For the rest of the summer term, inspection activity will mainly be on site.

The plans cover inspections of maintained schools, academies and independent schools, further education and skills providers, early years and initial teacher training.

Further information is available in the [guidance on Ofsted: coronavirus (COVID-19) rolling update](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ofsted-coronavirus-covid-19-rolling-update?utm_source=29%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) and the [announcement on full Ofsted inspections expected from September](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/full-ofsted-inspections-expected-from-september?utm_source=29%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19).

[**Ofsted: coronavirus (COVID-19) rolling update**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ofsted-coronavirus-covid-19-rolling-update?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=243883db-2668-475b-98c4-5b3a35b809f4&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary**:
Ofsted guidance and information relating to coronavirus (COVID-19) for schools, early years, children’s social care and further education and skills providers.

**Change made:**
Reworked ‘Current activity’ section throughout to reflect our current plans to return to on-site inspection. Removed out of date content.

**Time updated:**
9:30am, 29 March 2021

Ofsted News - **Issue 99 March 2021**

Our free monthly newsletter available [here](https://mailchi.mp/ofsted/j0j13n9u3d-125009?e=5f74b7629e)

**Key points include:**

**Covid-19 notifications in EY settings:**

* Continues to fall week on week
* Significant reduction between February and March:
* 08.02.21 1806
* 01.03.21 491

**Joiners and leavers in EY sector:**

* Small fall between end January and end February in all  4 types of EY provision
* Overall fall in all provision:
* January 72,538
* February 2021 72,223
* Net overall change shows a significant change:
* January -1772
* February -135

[**Reported Coronavirus Covid-19 notifications by early years and childcare settings**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reported-coronavirus-covid-19-cases-by-registered-early-years-and-childcare-settings)

**Page summary:**
This data is published fortnightly. It gives the number of registered early years and childcare providers reporting one or more confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) by week.

**Change made:**Added data for weeks beginning 8 March and 15 March 2021.

**Time updated:**
9:30am, 6 April 2021



**Lifetime Skills Guarantee Launch**

PACEY has partnered with national training provider [The Childcare Company](https://www.thechildcarecompany.com/) to expand the range of high quality training and qualifications available to members including the Level 3 Award in Preparing to Work in Home-based Childcare (HBCA) which is a regulated qualification and contains criteria that can be mapped to the Early Years Educator Qualification.

[Find out more about the courses on offer here including the Level 3 award listed in the Lifetime Skills Guarantee](https://www.pacey.org.uk/training-and-qualifications/childcare-qualifications/childcare-qualifications-and-apprenticeships/)

The Lifetime Skills Guarantee was first announced in September 2020 as a way to help people boost their employability, seek better jobs and improve the economy in a post-Covid era. Backed by £95 million in government funding in 2021/22, an estimated 11 million adults in England **without an A-level or equivalent qualification** will be able to take fully-funded college courses under this scheme.

There are around 400 qualifications available in a range of sectors, including Level 3 courses in early education and childcare.

See the full list of available Level 3 qualifications [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/find-a-free-level-3-qualification/list-of-free-level-3-qualifications-available-to-eligible-adults), which will be updated as more courses become available.

**Early Years Service**

**Training and Continuous Professional Development: Calendar 2020 - 2021**

Slough Early Years Service is committed to supporting the sector with training and continuous professional development opportunities. We are constantly reviewing our offer and have recently made some changes to the next annual calendar to take into considerations the impact of COVID-19.

All of the training that has been scheduled has been based on feedback from the sector but if you are looking for something specific that we haven’t organised please contact us and we will be happy to discuss your requirements, please contact earlyyears@slough.gov.uk or call 01753 476581





**Early Years in Mind free webinars**

**Supporting bereaved children in early years settings - Thursday May 13, at 16:30-18.00**

For most young children, coping with the loss of a loved one will be a challenge that they are not prepared for. For some it may be traumatic, confusing, saddening or unsettling. This webinar will offer early years workers clear and practical guidance on how they can manage the needs of children in their care who have experienced some kind of loss or bereavement. It will look at the different reactions young children may have, and explore a range of ways that you may be able to help them make sense of their feelings and experiences, and help them through what they may be going through. The webinar will also put forward practical ideas and resources that an early years setting might like to use to support them.

[**Click here to book your free place.**](https://annafreud.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=aa2c9f8b722440e7e05bedb82&id=ca21e2685c&e=9fe63ba921)

**Supporting children in early years settings who may have experienced trauma - Thursday**

**June 24 at 16:30-18.00**

Sadly, a large number of early years workers are likely to come across children who have experienced some kind of trauma during their work. Trauma can be caused by a range of events and experiences. Some children may have encountered neglect, abuse, or violence, and others might be dealing with the fall out from an accident, bereavement or natural disaster.

This webinar will offer early years workers clear and practical guidance on how they can manage the needs of children in their care who have experienced some kind of trauma. It will look at the different reactions young children may have, and explore a range of ways that you might be able to manage their needs, and support them as best you can within your setting.

[**Click here to book your free place.**](https://annafreud.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=aa2c9f8b722440e7e05bedb82&id=914640ca4c&e=9fe63ba921)

**Updates for Parents**

## [**Hundreds of free qualifications on offer to boost skills and jobs**](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hundreds-of-free-qualifications-on-offer-to-boost-skills-and-jobs?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=53285a9a-d537-4340-b6a0-6e5f27effe69&utm_content=daily)

**Page summary**:
Launch of free qualifications marks a major milestone in government’s Lifetime Skills Guarantee

**Change made:**First published.

**Time updated:**12:15am, 1 April 2021