

# Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser (EYSPA) Programme

Thames Valley  
and South Central  
Early Years  
Stronger practice hub



*Targeted Support for Early Years Settings and Childminders*

## What is the EYSPA Programme?

The Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser (EYSPA) Programme is a new Department for Education initiative delivered through the Early Years Stronger Practice Hubs (EYSPH).

The programme provides targeted support for eligible early years settings to:

- Boost children's development
- Improve outcomes for children
- Narrow the disadvantage gap
- Strengthen leadership and practice

Selected settings will receive support from an experienced Early Years Stronger Practice Adviser (EYSPA), who will coach leaders and help improve practice within the setting.

## Who can apply?

Support is available for:

- Group-based early years settings
- Childminder settings

## What support will settings receive?

### Group-based Settings:

- 3-4 full working days of in-person support
- Support delivered within one school term
- Tailored coaching and improvement support from an EYSPA

### Childminder Settings:

- 4 days of support over one term
- Delivered online and/or in-person
- Small cluster support with up to 4 childminders

## Eligibility Criteria

Settings must meet **at least ONE** of the following criteria:

### Ofsted Criteria

Your setting may be eligible if your most recent Ofsted judgement includes:

- "Needs Attention" or "Urgent Improvement" under the post-November 2025 framework

OR

- "Requires Improvement" or "Inadequate" under the pre-November 2025 framework

### Additional Eligibility Criteria

Settings may also be eligible if they have high numbers of children:

- Eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)
- Eligible for the Early Learning for 2-Year-Olds Offer
- With SEND needs and qualifying for support

**Scan this QR code to apply**



Supported by

 Department  
for Education

*Supporting Stronger Practice in Early Years*

Helping settings improve outcomes for children through evidence-informed support, coaching and collaboration

