

Dear colleagues,

We hope you're well and have managed some form of break or rest over the summer despite the ongoing busy pace of things.

As of today, 1 September 2021, childminders, nurseries, preschools and primary schools in England must follow the new [early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) framework](#). We believe these curriculum, assessment and minor welfare changes can make a real difference for children and the incredible early years workforce. We realise that implementation of the reforms may feel easier for some providers than others depending on various factors, and so we wanted to re-highlight resources we have provided so far and to ask you to help share these with the sector if you feel able to do so. We are continuing to work on further implementation support information and materials with the aim of responding to common questions from providers as they implement the changes.

The key aims of the reforms are to:

- improve child outcomes at age 5, particularly in early language and literacy, especially for disadvantaged children; and
- reduce workload, such as unnecessary paperwork, so that practitioners can spend more time interacting with children in their care.

The key areas of the reforms are:

- revised educational programmes and early learning goals, including a clear focus on early language development and more information on self-care and being healthy.
- changes to the EYFS profile assessment requirements at the end of reception year including removal of the 'exceeding' criteria and statutory local authority moderation; and
- a change in the safeguarding and welfare section of the EYFS, promoting children's oral health and other small changes in that section, including to support prevention of choking in settings.

During academic year 20-21 over 3,000 'early adopter' schools used the revised framework and their feedback has helped us shape various resources and supporting materials to aid implementation of the reforms.

We also used feedback from early adopters and other settings to make some further changes to Development Matters, Government's non-statutory curriculum guidance. The changes focused on formatting, a clearer introduction and inclusivity. The guidance has been designed to help practitioners and leaders plan and deliver strong and inclusive curriculums with early language at the heart. For the first time it includes a dedicated reception year focus. It is freely available on [GOV.UK](#) in pdf and html formats as different practitioners have wanted it in different formats to suit their preferred way of viewing and using the guidance.

An online resource hub has also been created to support nurseries and childminders with the reforms. Reception teachers and school leaders may also find some of the resources useful. The service '[Help for early years providers](#)' has been developed

with sector experts and has undergone extensive user testing to ensure it meets the needs of the workforce. We continue to use rolling feedback on the live service to iterate and augment it. The service contains a range of videos and written materials covering all areas of learning along with overarching materials to support effective practice. Further resources will continue to be added to the service.

DfE, Ofsted and Foundation Years have worked together to publish a range of vodcasts aimed at different parts of the sector to support understanding and implementation of the revised EYFS:

[Implementing the revised EYFS in primary schools](#)

[Understanding the revised EYFS - headteachers and senior leadership](#)

[Understanding the revised EYFS - PVI's and childminders](#)

[Understanding the revised Development Matters](#)

[Learn - Explore - Debate events: implementing the revised EYFS](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards
EYFS Reforms Implementation team
Department for Education

