

Showing evidence of improvement

EYFS 2012 - SEF

Ofsted Early Years self evaluation form

For settings delivering the EYFS

Age group - birth to 31 August following a child's 5th birthday

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Setting name		
Setting unique reference number		
Setting address		
	Postcode	
Completed by (name and role)		
Date completed		

Recording evidence of improvement (EYFS)

What you are trying to achieve

The SEF helps you to show what you do and how you meet the needs of the children... it is all about answering the question 'what is it like for a child here?'

When you record improvement you are showing off... boasting... making the most of everything you have done... because nobody else is going to do it for you!

When to record information

You might add information...

- Every time you do something new or try something different...
- Every time you talk to parents about how you work and what you are doing you should record their views...
- Every time you involve the children in evaluating their activities you should jot down what they say and how you intend to use their comments to improve...
- Every time you go on a course you should think about how it has supported you to improve the ways you work...

... and think about how your provision has improved as a result.

Other ways to record information

I have a number of files which help me to show evidence of self improvement such as...

- Personal development file - which includes information such as details of my local childminding network, a printed copy of my SEF etc
- Folders of my e-books - that I have printed and use for my reference
- Local Authority self improvement documents
- Certificates and course information
- Evaluations and notes from parents and the children

It is very important that you include any information that shows you are professional and always trying to improve.

Types of information to include

Think about including information such as...

- **Audits** - carry out a few audits to see how you are getting on. You could research to do an inclusion or healthy setting audit. I have written 12 audits – one for every month of the year – which you can access free if you are a gold member on www.childcare.co.uk;
- **Children's comments** - perhaps via questionnaires or the chats you have during the day that have changed the ways you work;
- **Coordinator comments** - ideas from your local childminding coordinator that you have taken on board and used in your home or garden;
- **E-books** - talk about e-books you have purchased and read and details about what they have taught you about working with the children / parents / other settings / paperwork etc;
- **Forums** you belong to which help you share good practice with other childminders. For example www.childmindinghelp.co.uk/forum;
- **Friends** you visit or who visit you and who have shared new ideas
- **Groups** you attend to share ideas and get support from other childminders;
- **Internet** - information you have downloaded / accessed from the internet to support different children's learning and development;
- **Latest childcare information** – research and keep up to date;
- **Paperwork** you have updated / changed / adapted to make it work better;
- **Parent feedback** - received and acted upon;
- **Qualification** - take a new qualification, maybe an NVQ or get involved in a local authority Quality Improvement scheme;
- **Resources** - extend your toys to include more resources which cover multiculturalism, numbers and shapes, books, small world play, outside activities, diversity etc;
- **Safeguarding** – check that your safeguarding or other 'must have' paperwork is up-to-date by liaising with your local Childminding coordinator or researching on the Internet;
- **Training** you have attended for eg specific children's medical conditions or to support babies with Makaton.

These are just some ideas... there are many more which will be more relevant to the work you do. Do not forget to make sure your intentions for the future are do-able... Ofsted might check.

Part A. Setting details and views of those who use the setting

Section 1. Your setting

Things to talk about -

- Changes you have made to staffing arrangements
- Changes you have made to your house or garden
- New training or local authority improvement schemes
- Changes to opening and closing hours etc

Remember that if you make big changes such as adding a room to your house or taking on an assistant you must inform Ofsted at the time - do not wait for your inspection!

Evidence of my improvement -

Section 2. Views of those who use your setting and who work with you

Things to talk about -

- How comments from parents have influenced your work
 - How comments from children have influenced your work
 - How comments from other professionals have influenced your work
 - How comments from assistants or co childminders / colleagues etc have influenced your work
- ... and how the changes you have made have raised outcomes for the children

Evidence of my improvement -

Part B: The quality and standards of the early years provision

Section 3. How well you meet the needs of the range of children who attend

Things to talk about -

- Children's learning and development
 - How children are making excellent progress
 - Changes to your play environment - house or garden
 - New activities or resources
 - Changes to your starting points document
 - How changes to observation, assessment and individual planning helps children achieve better
- ... and how the changes you have made have raised outcomes for the children

Evidence of my improvement -

Section 4. The contribution of the early years provision to children's wellbeing

Things to talk about -

- Children's PSED development
- Children's communication and language development
- Children's physical development
- Changes to how you use the characteristics of effective learning to support children
- How you keep children healthy
- How you keep children safe
- Preparing children for transitions

... and how the changes you have made have raised outcomes for the children

Evidence of my improvement -

Section 5. The leadership and management of the early years provision

Things to talk about -

- Changes you have made to help you comply with the safeguarding and welfare requirements
- Changes you have made to help you comply with the learning and development requirements
- How you develop educational programmes to support children's progress
- Equality and diversity
- Recent evidence of working in partnership with other settings and professionals / safeguarding changes etc
- How you have improved since your last inspection

... and how the changes you have made have raised outcomes for the children

Evidence of my improvement -

Section 6. The overall quality and standards of the early years provision

Any further comments you want to include -