

Ofsted inspection outcomes - EYFS 2012

From Sept 1st, Ofsted inspections are going to change! Well... not the actual inspection, there will still be someone in your house watching and listening and asking you questions... but the focus of the inspection will be different!

There will be 3 main areas of focus during new-style inspections -

1 - How well you meet the needs of the range of children who attend - this means how well you can show that you are...

- Interacting with the children
- Sharing information with parents and other settings
- Observing, assessing and planning for the next steps in children's learning and development
- Using the Development Matters guidance document
- Ensuring children make good progress while they are with you etc...

2 - How well you contribute to children's well-being - this means how well you can show that you are...

- A good role model, teaching children about healthy eating, the importance of exercise etc
- Using the key person approach and forming strong attachments with the children in your care
- Following children's interests and learning styles etc...

3 - The leadership and management of the early years provision - you are the leader and manager of your provision and it is your responsibility to ensure all required documentation is securely in place, children are safe and healthy, educational provision is appropriate for every child, children receive extra support when it is needed etc.

Preparing for your inspection - before your inspection you should read the 2012 version of the booklet 'Are you ready for your inspection?' which will give you clues about what Ofsted inspectors are looking for when they come to your house -

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/are-you-ready-for-your-inspection-guide-inspections-of-provision-ofsted-childcare-and-early-years-r>

Another useful document is the Ofsted inspectors guidance 'Conducting Early Years Inspections'. This booklet tells you exactly what your inspector will be looking for, across all 3 inspection areas and gives lots of clues about how you will be graded. You can download it from here -

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/conducting-early-years-inspections>

The EYFS inspectors guidance talks about self evaluation and how you can use whatever type of self evaluation you choose to enhance your provision and improve outcomes for the children. As part of the self evaluation process a lot of childminders write 'action plans' to show what they intend to work on next, regularly updating them as they make changes and improvements to their day-to-day practice. This is an excellent way of showing evidence of continued self improvement.