

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Suitable People

Providers must ensure that adults looking after children are suitable to fulfil the requirements of their roles.

2.2 Student placements

Policy statement

We recognise that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care and education we provide, and to the early years workforce as a whole. As part of our commitment to quality, we offer placements to students undertaking early years qualifications and training. We also offer placements for school and college students on work experience.

We aim to provide for students on placement with us, experiences that contribute to the successful completion of their studies or work experience and that provide examples of quality practice in early years care and education.

Procedures

- We require students on qualification courses to meet the Suitable Person requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and have a satisfactory enhanced DBS check with barred list check(s).
- We require students in our setting to have a sufficient understanding and use of English to contribute to the well-being of children in our care.
- We require schools, colleges or universities placing students under the age of 17 years with us to vouch for their good character.
- Only contracted staff have unsupervised access to children.
- Students undertaking qualification courses who are placed in our setting are not counted in our staffing ratios.
- We take out employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance, which covers both students and voluntary helpers.
- We require students to keep to our Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy.
- We co-operate with students' tutors in order to help students to fulfil the requirements of their course of study.
- We provide students, at the first session of their placement, with a short induction on how our setting is managed, how our sessions are organised and our policies and procedures.
- We make it clear that we have an expectation of students to participate as far as possible as part of the team, and to that end they are shown our 'In-session Code of Practice and are included in team meetings and discussions if appropriate.
- We communicate a positive message to students about the value of qualifications and training.
- We make the needs of the children paramount by not admitting students in numbers that hinder the essential work of the setting.

- We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years training, which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities.

This policy was adopted by _____ *(name of provider)*

On _____ *(date)*

Date to be reviewed _____ *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider _____

Name of signatory _____

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) _____