

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS, 2021) contains some notification information including:

- **Concerns about children's safety and wellbeing must be notified to appropriate agencies.
- **'Allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere)' must be notified to Ofsted within 14 days.
- **Significant events must be notified to Ofsted. The EYFS states, 'The disqualification of an employee could be an instance of a significant event.'
- **'Food poisoning affecting two or more children cared for on the premises' must be notified to Ofsted within 14 days.
- **'Serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, any child while in their care, and of the action taken' must be notified to Ofsted within 14 days. The EYFS also states that you must, 'must notify local child protection agencies of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, any child while in their care, and must act on any advice from those agencies'.

EYFS requirement 3.78 also states: 'All registered early years providers must notify Ofsted ... of any change:

- In the address of the premises (and seek approval to operate from those premises where appropriate).
- To the premises which may affect the space available to children and the quality of childcare available to them.

This relates to your floor space calculations. If, for example, you have building work which impacts on how many children you can care for until the work is finished.

- In the name or address of the provider, or the provider's other contact information.
- To the person who is managing the early years provision.
- In the persons aged 16 years or older living or working on any domestic premises from which childminding is provided or to the persons caring for children on any premises where childminding is provided.

As a rule, childminders will receive an email or letter within a few days of their own child turning 16 years with a requirement to complete a DBS form and the 'Ofsted new adult in the household' form immediately.

- Any proposal to change the hours during which childcare is provided or to provide overnight care.
- Any significant event which is likely to affect the suitability of the early years provider or any person who cares for, or is in regular contact with, children on the premises to look after children.
- Where the early years provision is provided by a company, any change in the name or registered number of the company.

- Where the early years provision is provided by a charity, any change in the name or registration number of the charity. A person is not considered to be working on the premises if none of their work is done in the part of the premises in which children are cared for, or if they do not work on the premises at times when children are there.
- Where the childcare is provided by a partnership, body corporate or unincorporated association, any change to the 'nominated individual'.
- Where the childcare is provided by a partnership, body corporate or unincorporated association whose sole or main purpose is the provision of childcare, any change to the individuals who are partners in, or a director, secretary or other officer or members of its governing body.'

EYFS requirement 3.79 goes on to state: 'Where providers are required to notify Ofsted ... about a change of person except for managers, as specified in paragraph 3.78 above, providers must give Ofsted ... the new person's name, any former names or aliases, date of birth, and home address. If there is a change of manager, providers must notify Ofsted ... that a new manager has been appointed. Where it is reasonably practicable to do so, notification must be made in advance. In other cases, notification must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but always within 14 days. A registered provider who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with these requirements commits an offence.'

Ofsted updated its notification guidance (03.2022):

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/childcare-significant-events-to-notify-ofsted-about>

Previous guidance has been withdrawn.

Ofsted has also updated it's notification form (03.2022):

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-a-serious-childcare-incident>

The previous form has been replaced.

It is up to the individual provider to read the notification guidance and decide on whether they should inform Ofsted about changes to their setting or ways of working. Asking Facebook or a colleague is not a reliable way of ensuring compliance with the EYFS requirements or the new Ofsted significant events guidance.