



Birth to Five Service

Further information can be found at www.birthtofive.org.uk



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Managed Service on behalf of



Birth to Five Service

The Extension
to the
Early Years
Education
Entitlement for
3 and 4 Year Olds



Ensuring Quality Early
Years Provision

A Guide for Providers



Every Child Matters *In Lincolnshire*



Managed Service on behalf of



The importance of quality early years provision



High quality early years education can lead to better educational and social outcomes for all children and in particular, narrow the attainment gap for the most disadvantaged children.

This leaflet contains factors that settings should take into account in ensuring high quality provision for all children. More detailed information is available on the Birth to Five website www.birthtofive.org.uk

Considerations for good quality provision

In extending the Early Years Education Entitlement providers may need to reflect on certain aspects of the day to ensure quality throughout the child's routine. You may be extending your provision to include part of the day that is unfamiliar to you, such as lunch time or rest times.

Relaxation

Comfortable and cosy spaces for children to rest and relax in throughout the day. As children spend longer periods of time with you they need time and designated spaces to rest. This can be a quiet area or even a quiet room or a bench in the outside area.

Space and Time

Space and opportunities to spend time playing on their own. Sometimes children need to be on their own, it can be very daunting spending consistent periods with large groups. The environment and routine need to create these opportunities.

Outdoors

Children need access to outdoor spaces with a variety of surfaces and resources that facilitate a wide range of learning opportunities. The learning environment should be accessible throughout the year, whatever the weather. Ideally this should be available throughout the session and offer experiences across the six areas of learning and development.

Meal times

Arrangements need to take into account patterns of individual children's attendance and offer healthy options in a warm, calm and sociable environment with adults and other children. When you have different children arriving and leaving at different times there needs to be flexibility in when snacks can be accessed and when lunch should be provided. Providers need to consider staffing options and creating meaningful, quality experiences during these periods.

Routines

Routines should ensure all children have access to full range of quality learning opportunities through a stimulating learning environment. The routine should include child initiated and adult led opportunities. Practitioners can use visual timetables to support children to understand and follow the routine. All adults will be aware of the routine and the necessity to be flexible to meet children's needs.

Relationships

A child's Key Persons should be available to have conversations with children and their parents when they arrive and leave. The provision should still ensure the children already present or remaining continue with their activities with appropriate adult attention during this change over period.

Planning

The change in the way parents can use the entitlement means that providers need to be conscious that quality Early Years Education Entitlement delivery needs to happen throughout the day. All aspect of planning should reflect this.

Collaboration

Settings working collaboratively will need to ensure transitions are effectively managed. This not only includes the handover of children between settings but how settings will work together to effectively plan, share observations and meet the needs of shared children in their care.



As part of the pilot you will be required to work with the Birth to Five Service to deliver quality provision.