

The Revised Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

What you as parents/carers need to know

What is the EYFS?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) was originally launched in 2008. It is the statutory framework for all Early Years providers in England, but is held in high regard worldwide. The Statutory Framework for the EYFS sets the standards for learning, development and care, that all early years providers must meet.

Ofsted are the regulating body for educational settings in England. They regulate and inspect all early years providers against the safeguarding and welfare requirements. In addition they also look at the areas of learning to determine how well children are developing, as well as how well the children are kept safe and healthy

From time to time the EYFS is updated and refreshed. This previously has happened in 2012, 2014, 2017 and again in 2021.

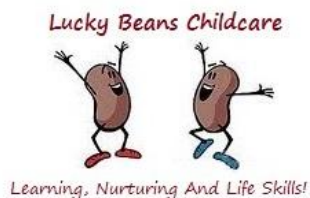
What has changed?

From September 2021 a revised EYFS has come into force. The key messages about the reform include:

- ✓ Reducing practitioner/teacher workload and needless paperwork to allow for more quality time and interactions with the children.
- ✓ Improving the outcomes of all children and addressing/reducing the disadvantage gaps.
- ✓ The importance of workforce knowledge and professional development to inform assessments. Reflect upon the need to assess every child's development against 'check lists', saving formal steps of assessment for when they are necessary.
- ✓ Making early learning goals clearer and more aligned to Year one curriculum.

What do the changes mean to you as a parent/carer?

The safety of your child and the quality of the education provided will not change. You may not see any changes in terms of the activities and opportunities on offer to your child/ren. However, you may notice that we are not physically recording as many observations and assessments of progress.



Please be reassured that we will still be supporting your child's development and responding to their interests. We will be using our professional judgements to assess your child's development during our daily interactions and activities.

The progress check at 2 years is still a mandatory assessment point where we will still share your child's development and progress with you. This can then be shared with other agencies involved with your child, for example GP, Health visitor, Speech and Language, etc.

Our pedagogy

Pedagogy is often described as the act of teaching; it is the understanding of how the children learn and develop throughout the day. It is the techniques and strategies we use to provide opportunities for development, and how our relationships and interactions with children can affect them.

Early years pedagogy is a mix of:

- **Development** – Focusing on how and why children change in terms of their learning and development over time.
- **Behaviour** – How a child's experiences shape their behaviour.
- **Relationships** – How children change and learn in relation to those around them.
- **Culture** – How family life and culture impact learning and relationships.

Our curriculum

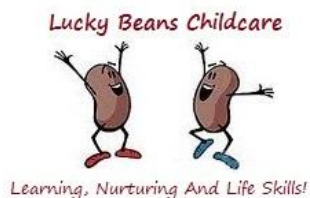
The EYFS is broken down into 7 areas of learning and development. These have not changed and remain as:

Prime Areas: [\(0-24 months\)](#)

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Specific Areas: [\(24 months onwards\)](#)

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



The prime areas of learning form the essential foundations for healthy development and future learning. Once a solid start has formed within the prime areas we continue to build upon these skills, opening to explore more learning opportunities within the specific areas of learning.

Careful thought is given to inform our enabling environments (indoors and outdoors), to provide resources, activities and learning opportunities to meet each child's unique requirements. Ofsted call this the 'curriculum'.

Our curriculum is very flexible and responsive in order to follow children's interests, and those totally unplanned learning opportunities that sometimes come out of the blue: for example when it unexpectedly starts to snow, etc.

Young children learn through play. The EYFS refers to this as the Characteristics of Effective Learning. These come under the following three headings:

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

Every EYFS provider has their own bespoke curriculum (curriculum is what we teach, pedagogy is how we teach it), to support each child's unique developmental pathway, following their interests and fascinations.

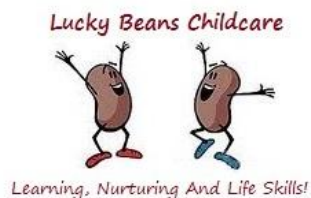
The government has developed a new non-statutory curriculum guidance for the new EYFS framework that everyone can use from September 2021.

Our Curriculum will incorporate Cultural Capital. What is Cultural Capital, you may be asking? It is the knowledge and skills a child needs to prepare them for the future, providing children with experiences and opportunities to help them progress and achieve success. Essentially, it's about giving them everything they need for what comes next in their learning and development.

It's about valuing and respecting all cultures and backgrounds, providing opportunities for our children to experience the 'awe and wonder' of the world around us, through pictures, role-play and trips. And as we all know, every child is unique and develop at different stages, which is why our curriculum is adaptable to each child.

Going forward, we will choose one learning outcome from each area of learning (prime areas only if under two), which our practitioners will work on those with your child for a few weeks. These outcomes would be of benefit to your child's personal development. For example, it may be as simple as:

- Provide opportunities to work on their Fine Motor Skills. – So, we provide objects and toys that interest them to grab/ hold and pull and explore.



Or

- Practitioners use sounds that match what the children are playing with - like “brmmm” for a car or “woof” for dog or “choo-choo” for train.

With each outcome, your child’s key person will make a note whether your child is ‘working below’, ‘working towards’ or ‘working at’ their expected age range.

The age ranges as set out by the government are:

- Birth - 6 months
- 6 months - 12 months
- 12 months - 18 months
- 18 months - 24 months
- 24 months - 36 months
- 36 months - 48 months
- 48 months - 60 months
- 60 months - 71 months

Every six months your child’s key person will look at how your child is progressing and the outcomes from the areas of learning we want to focus on in the next six months. We will then share this with you in a meeting either in person or via email if you'd prefer.

If between these dates you have any concerns about your child's development you can of course contact your nursery manager and set up an interim meeting. If you have any queries regarding this, please email the Manager or email Nadia (Quality Assurance Manager): qualityassurance@luckybeanschildcare.co.uk

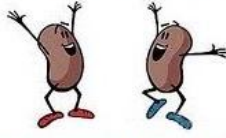
We recommend all parents to have a read of the document produced by the government, ‘What to expect when’ (link is below). The purpose of this booklet is to help you as a parent/carer to find out more about how your child is learning and developing during their first five years; in relation to the EYFS as well as how you can help in their learning at home.

Children develop more rapidly during the first five years of their lives than at any other time. This booklet has been written to help you as a parent/carer know what to expect during these vitally important years by focusing on the seven areas of learning and development which are covered in the EYFS. Please see the link below.

[What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf)
([foundationyears.org.uk](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk))

We want to ensure that parents are well-informed about their child's progress, achievements, and any areas that may require attention. We understand that parents are the primary influencers in a child's life and that their involvement is vital for fostering holistic growth.

Lucky Beans Childcare



Learning, Nurturing And Life Skills!

We welcome and encourage parents to actively engage with us, share their child's milestones, and participate in their child's educational journey. Together, we can make a significant difference in preparing them for a bright and successful future.

Lucky Beans Childcare Team