

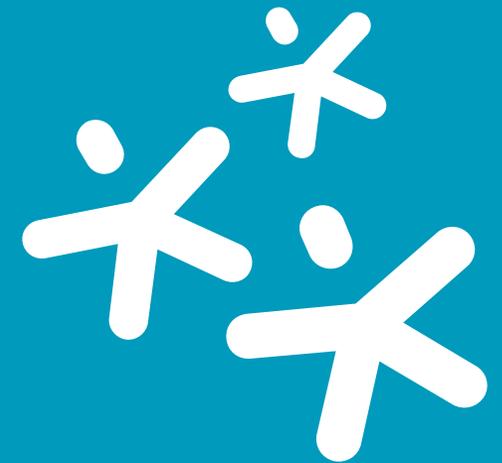
# National OBC meeting

## Update from Ofsted

Friday 23 July 2020

Gill Jones HMI, Deputy Director, Schools and Early Education

Wendy Ratcliff HMI, Principal Officer, Early Education



# Ofsted interim visits

- Until EIF inspections of providers on the early years register resume, Ofsted will use its **regulatory powers** to conduct interim visits.
- We have continued our regulatory work while routine inspections are suspended. Inspectors can use regulatory or enforcement actions if appropriate.
- Ofsted interim visits will apply to all providers who were judged inadequate or requires improvement who were issued actions for a breach of one or more of the EYFS safeguarding and welfare requirements (S&W).

# Ofsted interim visits

- Ofsted interim visits will focus on whether providers have met their S&W actions raised at the last inspection and will provide assurance that childcare providers are now meeting these requirements.
- The re-inspection date for these providers may have passed due to COVID-19, or the re-inspection may be due before routine inspections are due to restart.
- Ofsted interim visits will take place during the period September to November/December 2020 inclusive.

# Ofsted interim visits

- We will not be checking whether a provider has met any learning and development (L&D) requirement actions set at the last inspection.
- We want to allow providers time to get back to normal following the period of uncertainty caused by the pandemic.
- After the 25 September 2020 providers must meet the L&D requirements in full.



# Ofsted interim visits

- Inspectors will be sensitive to the challenges presented by COVID-19; we will always take that context into account.
- We will prioritise the safety and welfare of everyone involved in the visits, including children, carers, staff and inspectors; we will follow the most up-to-date guidance from Public Health England.
- We continue to be guided by existing guidance and principles for conducting our compliance and enforcement as set out in our Early years compliance handbook.



# Ofsted interim visits

- These visits will **not** result in a judgement. We will publish a short summary to confirm what was found during the visit.
- We will publish an outcome summary on the provider page of the website. This will outline the actions a provider has taken to meet the requirements, along with any other actions we or the provider may need to take.



## During this period...

- We are continuing to prioritise our regulatory and registration work.
- Introducing Ofsted interim events for grade 3 and grade 4 providers means we will not visit providers of all grades.
- Reinspection of providers judged as inadequate and RI will be considered early on when we return to inspection activity.
- We are supplementing this activity with phone calls to other providers, this will allow us to get a more representative understanding of how the EY sector is responding to COVID-19.

# Changes to Ofsted's post-inspection processes and complaints handling

- Greater consistency in post-inspection arrangements across inspection remits.
- Allow 5 working days for providers to review their draft report and raise any issues of factual accuracy.
- We will consider and respond to formal complaints from inspected providers before we publish their inspection report.
- We will retain current arrangements for internal reviews into complaints handling, including the scrutiny panel.



## Further information:

- BLOG: Registration visits: for now, a new normal  
<https://www.pacey.org.uk/news-and-views/pacey-blog/july-2020/blog-registration-visits-for-now,-a-new-normal/>
- Ofsted: coronavirus (COVID-19) rolling update  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ofsted-coronavirus-covid-19-rolling-update>
- Changes to Ofsted's post-inspection processes and complaints handling  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changes-to-ofsteds-post-inspection-processes-and-complaints-handling>