

Ofsted questions for an Early Years Practitioner

One of the concerns that can accompany an Ofsted visit is not knowing what questions they might ask. So here are few questions that can help you be prepared.

Safeguarding

1. Who is the designated safeguarding lead (DSL)?
2. What is your safeguarding policy?
3. What is the most recent safeguarding training you had and when?
4. Does your DSL have enough time, training and resource to fulfil the demands required of the role?
5. Are your staff trained to identify when a pupil may be at risk of neglect, abuse or exploitation and do they know how to report concerns? Do they evidence those concerns?
6. Are your children safe from discrimination and bullying?

Staff

1. What is your training and experience? (especially for those in leadership positions)
2. Do you feel supported in your role?
3. How do you monitor progress with regards to the strategies you have in place?
4. How are you monitoring staff performance?
5. Do you run any peer-to-peer observations?

Transitions

1. How do you prepare children for their next setting?
2. How do you help children to settle when they first arrive?
3. What relationships do you have with children's previous/future educational settings?

Understanding Children

1. What experiences have children had inside and outside of your setting?
2. They may choose one or two children in particular and ask for you to tell them about the child, what their starting points were, where they are in their development, what their next steps are and so on.

For Older Children in EYFS Settings

1. What is your early reading support?
2. How is phonics taught?
3. What interventions do you have to close the attainment gap for reading and writing?
4. How are you instilling a love for reading?
5. Discussion of our curriculum maps and long term plans.
6. How does what you do link to year 1
7. How do you build on learning from nursery?

Pedagogy and Curriculum

1. What informs your practice?
2. Why did you set up this activity, what is the purpose?
3. How do you add value to children in your care?
4. How did you decide on your curriculum?

5. What makes your setting unique?
6. What informs your practice?
7. How do you ensure your curriculum is ambitious?
8. How do you ensure important learning and understanding aren't missed?
9. What does assessment look like for you?
10. What do you do when children are repetitive in their play?
11. How do you feel that activity went, what did the children get from it and is there anything you could have added?

