

To all Headteachers of Schools with  
Early Years Children Maintained, Academy,  
Independent, Special, Infants and Primary schools

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SKILLS**

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Our Ref: LM/MV

Please ask for: Lisa Morris  
Date: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Headteacher and Early Years Lead(s)

This year, as part of our commitment to visit all Early Years provision annually, you have the option of a visit from an Early Years Local Authority Adviser. Solihull Early Years and Education Improvement Service have decided to offer this for 2016/2017 academic year. Each Solihull registered provision has the option of a joint evaluation visit either as a 'Setting Improvement Strategy visit [SIS] or as part of the school adviser 'risk assessment' process. If you are a school with extended early years provision [a day nursery, wrap around, out of school club which is governor run] then you have the option of either a SIS visit to the extended provision or an adviser visit which focusses across all the school run early years provision on site.

Option 1: In the full risk assessment visit the Early Years Adviser will discuss all provision which is school run and under the school's registration. This will include wraparound, out of school club and holiday play schemes where applicable. The content of this discussion is outlined below. The extended provision will not be visited by an Early Years Adviser as part of our separate 'Setting Improvement Strategy' but instead be included within this visit. (See attached blank report.)

Option 2: A SIS visit will focus on the extended provision and will not include Nursery or Reception. A separate letter will be sent to all early years providers who have the option of a SIS visit.

The school visits will take place in the Autumn term to complement the LA School Adviser visits in the second half-term. Linked to the 2016 Ofsted Survey 'Unknown children – destined for disadvantage?' we would like to focus on the work you have been doing to support vulnerable learners and the impact of interventions, EYPP etc

The visit will include:

- A walk around the EYFS provision to discuss changes since the last visit and for priorities for 2016/2017
- Joint discussion using the Ofsted EYFS evaluation schedule criteria
- A review of the EYFS LA Report(s) for last year and development points
- A review of 2016 EYFSP data
- An opportunity for the school to share a case study linked to the *impact* of targeted pupil support. This might be a case study linked to EYPP or another vulnerable group, a school

development priority to improve EYFS outcomes for a group of learners, or a strategy to support parent engagement to ensure children are school ready.

We will need to look at numbers of schools that opt in to a visit before we then allocate advisers. The Early Years Adviser who is allocated to school will contact you later in September to arrange the visit. Option 1 [the wider EYFS in school focus] will be led by Early Years Learning and Development Advisers and option 2 [SIS visits] will be supported by the wider early years team. Please let Early Years Enquiries know if you would like to 'opt in' to this opportunity. They can be contacted by telephone on 0121 704 6150 or [eyenquiries@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:eyenquiries@solihull.gov.uk). You do not need to justify your decision not to 'opt in', but we would value feedback. Please let us know if you want a separate Early Years visit or a SIS visit by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016. Settings that are separately registered with Early Years Ofsted will continue to receive a SIS visit as usual this year. The visits should last approximately 2- 2 ½ hours and will be organised at a time to suit school. Please contact a member of the early years team if you would like to discuss this further.

#### EYFSP Moderation

The DfE have announced that the early years foundation stage profile will remain statutory for the 2016 to 2017 academic year. Schools must continue to complete the EYFSP for their reception-year pupils in the summer term, by 30 June 2017 and report the results to local authorities. The Solihull EYFS moderation meetings will be adapted to take into account the continued need to moderate judgements at Early Learning Goal/ EYFSP.

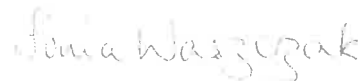
Yours sincerely



Phil Leivers  
**Head of Solihull Early Years and  
Education Service**



Lisa Morris  
**Early Years Adviser**



Sonia Waszczak  
**Early Years Adviser**

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#### Early Years Advisers

Sonia Waszczak

Lisa Morris

#### Learning and Development Advisers

Jayne Draper

Rachel Painter

Vicki Watson

#### Welfare and Safeguarding Officers

Alison Keen

Emma Linton

Wendy Hillier

Christine Ward