

Solihull Early Years and Childcare Ofsted
Registered Settings

CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SKILLS

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Your Ref:

Please ask for: Lisa Morris

Our Ref: LM/kes

Date: September 2022

For the attention of setting leaders

The Early Years Team- setting support for 2022-2023

We are looking forward to catching up with you as a new academic year begins. Thank you again for all that you have done for children and families over the last year.

Thank you also for your feedback, which we have valued and used to shape this year's visits.

As a Local Authority [LA] our **statutory duties** are outlined in '[Early education and childcare: Statutory guidance for local authorities](#)' These are summarised below.

The requirement

- for LAs and their partners to improve outcomes for all children under five and reduce inequalities.
- for LAs to secure sufficient [quality] childcare.
- to provide information, advice and training to childcare partners and information, advice, and assistance to parents.

As we enter our second year as the reshaped Early Years' Service, feedback from you suggests that we are working well to support settings in meeting the needs of all children. We will continue to reflect on, and strive to develop, the best ways of working in our role as improvement advisers and area SENCo's.

Setting Improvement Visits

The **Setting Improvement visit** is an opportunity to reflect with your adviser on the EYFS and/or Ofsted requirements and any support needs that the setting may have. The information from visits and Ofsted Inspection reports will shape our education improvement training and priorities for the year ahead.

Early years and childcare settings, who are registered with Ofsted, will be contacted over the year to arrange a suitable date and time to carry out the visit and to agree an agenda.

The [Solgrid webpages](#) outline settings we are prioritising and our setting improvement approach. Visits will be tailored to the registration requirements of each setting.

The **Setting Improvement Visit** for Early Years Registered settings will continue to focus on how your curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and setting procedures meet the needs of all children.

This will include:

- a leadership discussion
- a reflective walk around the setting as a whole
- a joint observation/reflection on early years practice and provision with a focus on one of the prime areas.

This may include discussion (around the chosen prime area) with one or more practitioners working in a room. Please prepare team members.

Area SENCo support for group settings.

Eligible group-based settings and schools have received an e mail outlining the focus of Area SENCo support visits. You are able to arrange your annual meeting at a time to suit your setting. We hope to focus on support for the SENCo and setting quality. We will continue to respond to requests for support for children as we have this year. We have set a summer half-term deadline for requests for children transitioning into Reception.

To discuss this further please contact a member of the team –
Early Years Enquiries: 0121 704 6150 or eyenquiries@solihull.gov.uk .

Yours sincerely



Lisa Morris
Early Years Team Manager