

Solihull Early Years and Childcare Ofsted
Registered Settings

CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SKILLS

Council House, Manor Square
Solihull West Midlands B91 3QB
Tel: 0121 704 6150
Email: eyenquiries@solihull.gov.uk
www.solihull.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Please ask for: Lisa Morris

Our Ref: LM/kes

Date: September 2023

For the attention of early years setting leaders

The Early Years Team- setting support for 2023-2024

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.

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.

We really value all your feedback and suggestions and have used this along with information from recent Ofsted reports to shape our setting improvement visits, and our education improvement training and priorities for the year ahead.

In response to feedback, we have produced a new Early Years Training Brochure which details all our training (to date!) for the academic year 2023/24.

<https://www.solgrid.org.uk/eyc/training/>

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.

This year we intend to focus on the *Voice of the Child* – the different ways you ‘hear and see’ the children and families in your setting and how this is used to influence provision and practice.

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

The **Setting Improvement Visit** for Early Years Registered settings will focus on how your curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and setting procedures are responsive to the Voice of the Child.

This will include:

- a leadership discussion
- a reflective walk around the setting looking at practice and provision.
- a joint reflection/observation of Early Years practice and provision focusing on:

What do you know about each child?

How do you use that knowledge?

This should happen at an agreed time when we can see, hear and talk to children and adults in play – during routines such as snack, outside or inside. Please prepare team members and follow up with feedback.

At the end of the visit, we will ask you evaluate this process and identify what developments you will action as a result.

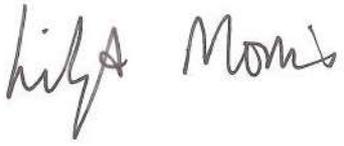
Area SENCo support for group settings.

Eligible group-based settings and schools will be contacted by their Area SENCo to arrange 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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Morris". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Lisa Morris
Early Years Team Manager