

## 10 Steps to Designing an Effective EYFS Curriculum: Meeting Ofsted Expectations



Designing an effective EYFS curriculum is crucial for providing **high-quality education for the children in your care**. This document guides you through the process of creating an EYFS curriculum that aligns with Ofsted expectations and meets the needs of the children. It includes 10 steps to help you pass an Ofsted inspection with flying colours.

### 1 EYFS Expectations

Familiarise yourself with the EYFS framework and Ofsted guidelines. This includes understanding the principles and requirements set by Ofsted for the EYFS curriculum. This will help you to ensure that your curriculum aligns with the expectations of Ofsted and that it is meeting the needs of the children.

### 2 Use EYFS Framework

Use the EYFS framework as the foundation for your curriculum and adapt it to meet the children's needs. The EYFS framework provides the structure for your curriculum and covers all the important areas of learning and development for children.

### 3 Expand and Broaden Curriculum

Consider the children's needs and adapt the curriculum accordingly. Take into account the different abilities, interests and backgrounds of the children in your care. You should aim to provide a curriculum that is inclusive and allows all children to reach their full potential.

### 4 Use Resources

Use non-statutory guidance as a resource but not a requirement. Resources such as "Development Matters" can provide useful information and ideas for enhancing the curriculum, but it is important to remember that it is not mandatory and that it is ultimately up to you to decide how to shape your curriculum.

### 5 Curriculum Mapping

Choose a format that effectively communicates the curriculum to inspectors. The format you choose for mapping out your curriculum should be one that clearly demonstrates how the curriculum is meeting the needs of the children and how it aligns with the EYFS framework. It should be easy for inspectors to understand and should demonstrate how learning is built in a sequence.

### 6 Foundation for KS 1

Ensure that the early years curriculum sets the foundation for key stage 1. This includes understanding how the curriculum in the early years is the foundation for key stage 1 and how knowledge builds in a sequence for the children. This will ensure that the children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning journey.

### 7 Understanding Children

Prioritise interactions and assessments that provide understanding of the children's abilities and needs. This includes focusing on getting to know the children, understanding their learning styles and assessing their understanding and progress in a way that is appropriate for their age and stage of development.

### 8 Tracking Progress

Use the EYFS framework to track progress and ensure children meet learning and development requirements. This includes ensuring that the curriculum is used as a progression model, and that progress is tracked in a way that aligns with the EYFS framework.

### 9 Foundation for Success

Ensure the curriculum provides the necessary foundation for children's success in KS1. Make sure that the curriculum covers all important areas of learning and development that will prepare children for the next stage of their education.

### 10 Internal Tracking

Ensure internal tracking aligns with the EYFS framework and does not detract from important interactions with children. This includes making sure that any internal tracking or assessment is in line with the EYFS framework, and that it does not take away from the important interactions and assessments that provide understanding of the children's abilities and needs.