



Quick Guide to

The Early Years/ School Ready Team

What are the key responsibilities of the Early Years/ School Ready Team?

- To provide information, advice and training to schools, day-care settings and childminders to ensure all early years provision is good or outstanding.
- To raise the attainment of children by the age of five in order that they achieve a 'good level of development'.
- To ensure all provider types are compliant with the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework.
- To deliver the Local Authority statutory profile assessment duty.
- To encourage take up the 2 year old entitlement for eligible children through direct contact with parents and partnership working.

What are the aims of the Early Years/ School Ready Team?

- To raise attainment in all 17 aspects of learning in order to close the gap between Walsall and National outcomes.
- To raise the attainment of vulnerable groups including disadvantage children and those with special educational needs.
- To analyze data and use it to inform the planning of network events, training packages and targeted work in schools and settings.
- To strengthen leadership in Early Years to ensure all 'quality of leadership' judgements are good or outstanding.
- To work in partnership with other services to ensure that children 0-2 years old have their needs identified and met.

What will the Early Years Team provide?

- Advice, challenge and support to schools, settings and childminders on all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage, the Statutory Framework for Early Years and the relevant Inspection Handbooks.
- Network events three times a year for school EY leaders and setting managers.
- Training courses and conferences.
- Brokerage of school to school support
- Leadership programmes.
- Audits and audit tools.
- Information about national policy and procedure.
- Information about early learning and childcare places (Family Information Service)
- Information to the Access Team regarding local information about sufficiency of places for all qualifying children in order that they can access their early learning and childcare.

For more information:

Please contact Nicola Hart (Senior Quality Assurance Manager – Early Years) 01922 652892/ 07730502471
nicola.hart@walsall.gov.uk or Kim Stokes (School Ready Improvement Manager) 01922 652936/ 07944279937
kim.stokes@walsall.gov.uk