

# Improving the way Ofsted inspects education

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# Outline

- Background to consultation
- About the consultation
- Our proposals
  - Report cards
  - Education inspection toolkits
  - Inspection methodology
  - Types of inspection
  - Identifying schools causing concern
- What our proposals mean for you
- How to participate



# Background to consultation

T h e O f s t e d B i g L i s t e n

# Building a better Ofsted

—...



**Reset**

our priorities



**Refine**

our practices



**Rebuild**

relationships



## **Collectively, what do we want to achieve?**

- High-quality, inclusive education for every child, pupil and learner.
- Great outcomes for everyone, including those with SEND or those who are disadvantaged and/or vulnerable.
- Better information for parents.
- A collaborative and transparent approach to inspection.
- High and rising standards.

# Our education inspections

We want to make changes to our EY, Schools, FE&S and ITE inspections to respond to what we heard in the Big Listen:

- We will base our inspections and reports on **children's, pupils' and learners' development, experiences and outcomes.**
- Introduce **clearer criteria** to support leaders on their continuous improvement journey.
- Make the inspection process **more collaborative and transparent.**
- **Make clearer what providers should improve** – while also recognising leaders' independence and expertise.
- **Tailor the inspection process** and criteria to the education provider.





# About the consultation



# Who the 2025 Education reforms will impact

**Early years providers**



**Schools**



**Further Education providers**



**Initial teacher training providers**





# Timeline



- Early years providers
- Further education providers
- Schools
- Initial Teacher Education providers



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## **Have Your Say**

- Consultation document
- Example of a report card
- Education inspection toolkits
- Inspection methodology
- Give your views

**[www.gov.uk/Ofsted](https://www.gov.uk/Ofsted)**





# Our proposals

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Inspections that **look and feel** different  
for everyone





## We are proposing to conduct inspections in a way that:

- **promotes** professional conversation and collaboration
- **starts** with the premise that everyone is working within the legal expectations and professional frameworks expected of them
- **understands** and accounts for the unique context in which you work and have made decisions
- **seeks** to build a rounded picture of what you do, always seeking to find out what it's typically like to work, learn and care in your setting
- **accepts** that there will always be some aspects of what you do that are better and more developed than others
- **promotes** a self-improving system, that is inclusive of all and drives high and rising standards.

# Proposed changes that impact all remits

- **New Report Cards:** We want to give parents and stakeholders better information about a provider's **strengths and areas for improvement**
- Inspectors will evaluate more areas of a provider's work, using a **five-point grading scale**
- Introduction of **toolkits**
- Inspectors will apply **the toolkit evaluation areas, themes and standards**, tailoring evaluations to each provider's context.
- Inspectors will evaluate whether **safeguarding** is met or unmet at the whole provider level.
- Inspectors will no longer carry out deep dives in schools and FE&S.





# Proposed report cards

Clear information for parents/carers and relevant stakeholders from the sectors we inspect. Including:

- Clear grades and detailed descriptions.
- Accessible format – can be read on tablets and phones.
- Easy to navigate to find the information that is required.



# Inspector Information

The inspection framework and separate handbook will be replaced by **one, remit-specific product** which will have three parts:

1. The inspection framework (**Why**)
2. The operating guide (**How**)
3. The toolkits (**What**)





What the proposals mean for **early years**





## Early years providers

### We will continue to:

- Inspect the overall quality and standards of early years provision in line with the principles and requirements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage' (EYFS). **These standards are not changing.**
- Focus on priorities such as the quality of adult interactions and the importance of communication and language and keeping children safe and happy.
- Report on what it is like to be a child at this early years setting.
- Focus on the priorities, actions and impact of settings.

## Early years providers

### What we are proposing to change...

- New **evaluation areas**
- Two-part notification call
- More professional dialogue
- Introducing the '**Nominee**'
- Sharpening our focus on children with SEND and those who are disadvantaged and/or vulnerable.
- Aligning the renewed framework more closely to the EYFS







## Proposed evaluation areas for registered **early years providers**

- leadership and governance
- curriculum
- developing teaching
- achievement
- behaviour, attitudes and establishing routines
- children's welfare and well-being
- inclusion
- safeguarding





# How to share your views

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**[www.gov.uk/Ofsted](https://www.gov.uk/Ofsted)**



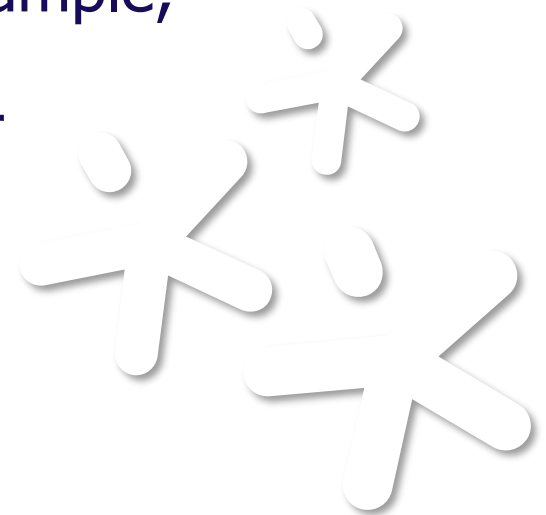


Queries re: Qualification requirements for  
childminders

## Childminding training and qualifications requirements. Domestic on EYR, CCR and VCR.

- EYR register.

Childminders and any assistants must be deemed suitable by Ofsted or their CMA; they must have the **relevant training** and have passed any required checks to fulfil their roles. Childminders must also ensure any person who may have regular contact with children (for example, someone living or working on the same premises where the childminding is being provided), must also be suitable. EYFS for childminders. Suitable people 3.10.



# **Childminding training and qualifications requirements. Domestic on EYR, CCR and VCR.**

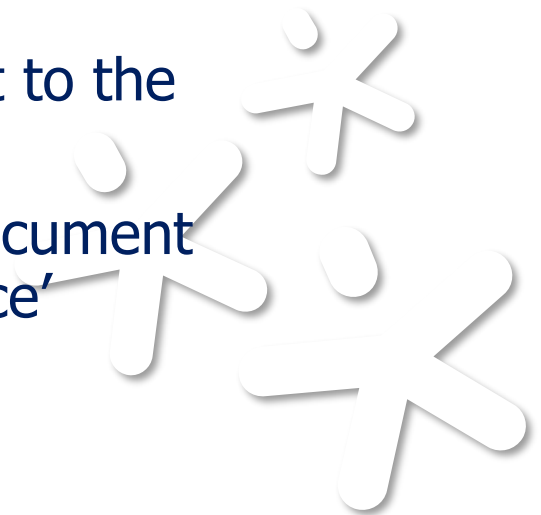
- CCR

The applicant has completed a course designed to enable the applicant to meet the requirements governing the activities which are applicable to later years childminding.

- VCR

- a) a qualification at a minimum of level 2 in an area of work relevant to the childcare, or
- b) successfully completed training in the core skills set out in the document 'Common Core of Skills and Knowledge for the Children's workforce'

Childcare register. Requirement CR4- Qualifications and Training





# Themes from inspections in London



# Ofsted publish data and statistics on early years and childcare inspections and outcomes.

- They can be found following this link:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted/about/statistics>
- You can request email alerts when Ofsted publishes research or statistics
- These statistics look at past outcomes and preclude any changes the current government may make to the way we inspect and regulate providers in the future.
- Ofsted release Official Statistics twice a year and providers and inspection data twice a year.
- Management information is also published twice per year: January/February for data as at, 31 December and in July/August for data as at, 30 June

# Ofsted also share information with LAs via the Family Information Directory Service (FIDy)

- This may involve changes to an NI, contact details, number of children on roll or an inspection outcome and LAs receive a report showing these changes.
- We have 153 LAs who have signed up to this service and you may be aware of a recent project asking LAs to connect to a new FIDy replacement service as the existing Legacy FIDy feed will shortly be discontinued.
- Inspection outcomes are only included in the FIDy feed once they have been through our quality assurance checks and the report has been published on our website.
- The exception to this, is when a provider has an inadequate inspection outcome, this is shared via the FIDy feed, prior to publication of the report. This will allow a LA to arrange any potential support that may be needed with a provider.
- This inadequate outcome that appears on the FIDy feed is an 'inspection decision' but will not become a published decision until we have agreement from the provider with no outstanding complaint being investigated.
- FIDy is not designed to re-notify LAs once the 'inspection' decision becomes a published decision.





# Grade profiles in London

# Overall effectiveness of EYR childcare in London, as of December 2024

- 97% of EYR providers were good or outstanding, broadly in line with the national figure of 98%
- London's percentage of "Outstanding" providers (11%) is slightly **below the national figure** of 14%.
- London performs slightly better in terms of "Good" ratings (86%) compared with the national figure of 84%.
- The percentages for "Requires Improvement" (2%) and "Inadequate" (1%) are **consistent** between London and the national figure.



Source: 31 December 2024: [Childcare providers and inspections: management information - GOV.UK](#)

# Childminders overall effectiveness in London, as of December 2024

- The majority (87%) of childminders in London are rated as "Good," with a smaller percentage achieving "Outstanding" or needing improvement.
- London has a slightly lower percentage of childminders rated "Outstanding" (9%) compared with the national average (12%).
- London exceeds the national figure for "Good" ratings, with 87% compared to 86% nationally.
- London has a higher percentage of settings that require improvement (3%) compared with the national figure (1%).
- Both London and the national figure have the same low percentage of "Inadequate" ratings (1%).

Overall, London performs well but has a slightly higher proportion of childminders needing improvement compared to the national figure.



Source: 31 December 2024: [Childcare providers and inspections: management information - GOV.UK](#)

# Childcare on non-domestic overall effectiveness in London, as of December 2024

- The majority of non-domestic childcare providers in London are rated "Good" (84%), with 13% achieving "Outstanding."
- London has a slightly lower percentage (13%) of "Outstanding" ratings compared with the national figure (16%).
- London performs slightly above the national figure for "Good" ratings, with 84% compared with the national figure (82%).
- Both London and the national figure show consistency, with 2% "Requires Improvement" and 1% "Inadequate."
- There's a slightly lower percentage of providers rated as "Outstanding" compared to the national figure.

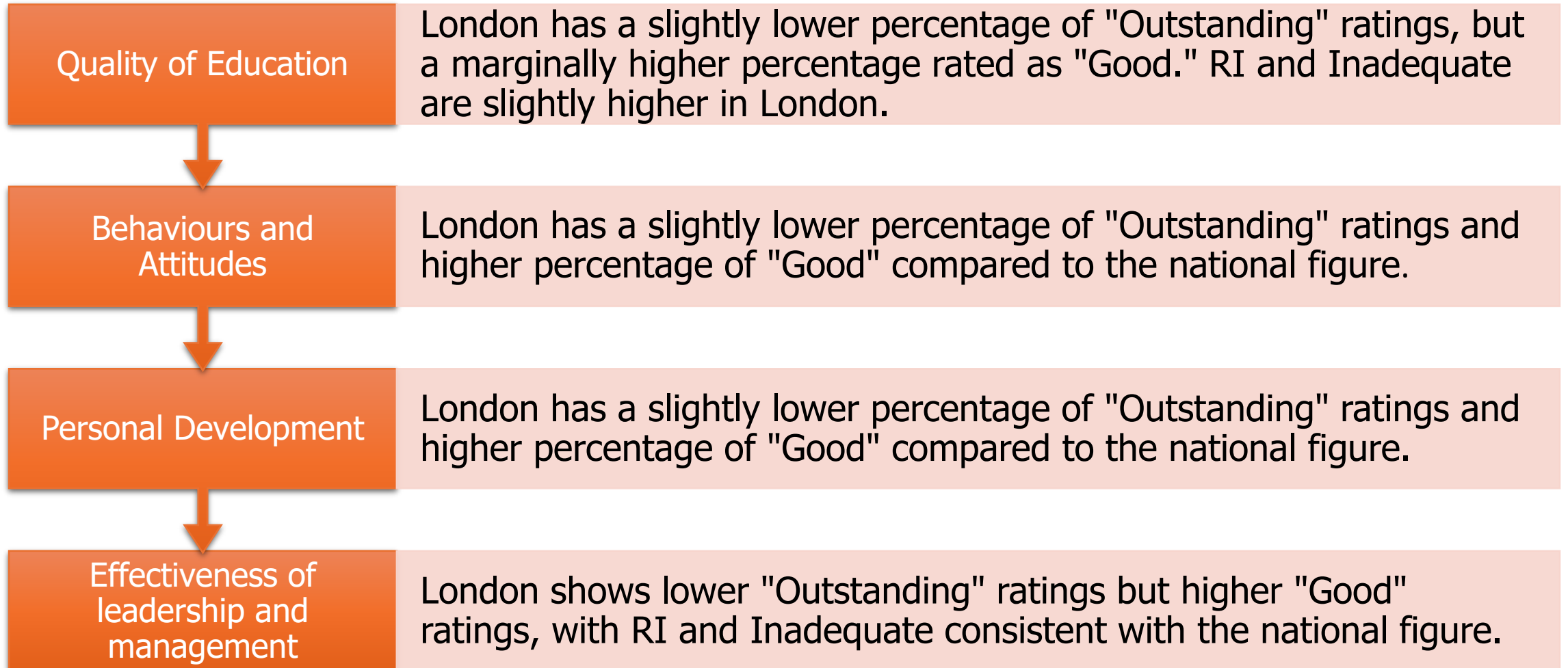
London's childcare providers on non-domestic premises align closely with national averages, demonstrating strong performance with minimal issues in the "Requires Improvement" or "Inadequate" categories.



Source: 31 December 2024: [Childcare providers and inspections: management information - GOV.UK](#)



# Key judgement areas



# Ofsted on the web and on social media

[www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>

 [www.linkedin.com/company/ofsted](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ofsted)

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