



EYFS Statutory Framework Compliance Policy

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Type of Policy:	School

Revision Number	Date Issued	Prepared by	Approved	Comments
I	27.04.26	LE/LM	27.04.26	New Policy

<i>Type of Policy</i>	<i>Tick ✓</i>
DCAT Statutory Policy	
DCAT Non-statutory Policy	
DCAT Model Optional Policy	
Academy Policy	✓
Local Authority Policy	

1. Purpose of This Policy

This policy sets out how Little Common School Nursery ensures full compliance with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework for group and school-based providers.

The EYFS sets mandatory standards for learning, development, safeguarding, welfare and staffing for all early years provision in England.

This policy applies to:

- Two-year-old provision
- School-based nursery class for children aged three and four
- Any wraparound or extended nursery care delivered on the school site

2. Legal and Regulatory Framework

Little Common School Nursery complies with the following statutory documents:

- Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (for group and school-based providers), effective from 1 September 2025
- Staffing, ratio and qualification requirements set out in the EYFS Statutory Framework
- Early Years Qualification and Level Requirements (DfE)
- Paediatric First Aid requirements within the EYFS Statutory Framework

These documents set out statutory requirements relating to:

- Learning & development
- Assessment
- Safeguarding & welfare
- Staffing qualifications
- Staff to child ratios
- Suitability, supervision, and deployment of adults
- Paediatric first aid requirements

3. Setting Aims

Little Common School Nursery will:

- Provide high-quality early education aligned to the EYFS learning and development requirements
- Ensure children's safety, welfare and wellbeing through robust safeguarding systems
- Deploy appropriately qualified, suitable and vetted staff
- Maintain strict compliance with statutory ratios, supervision rules and safeguarding practices
- Ensure all children experience an inclusive, nurturing environment where individual needs are met

4. Staff-to-Child Ratios (Statutory Minimum Requirements)

4.1 Children Aged 2 (two-year-old provision)

Minimum statutory ratio:

- 1 adult : 5 children (1:5)

4.2 Children Aged 3 and over (nursery class)

Two frameworks apply depending on who is leading the session:

When a qualified teacher / Level 6 practitioner is working directly with the children:

- 1 adult : 13 children (1:13)

Teachers with QTS, EYTS or EYP/Level 6 may be counted in this higher ratio.

When no qualified teacher / Level 6 practitioner is present:

- 1 adult : 8 children (1:8)

This applies when:

- The teacher is off-site
- The teacher is not working directly with the children (e.g., PPA, meetings)
- Leadership deploys the teacher elsewhere in school

The nursery must immediately move to 1:8 if the teacher leaves the room or site.

5. Staff Qualifications and Deployment

5.1 Counting Staff in Ratios

To be counted in statutory ratios, staff must:

- Be aged 17+ and assessed as suitable
- Hold an approved Level 2, Level 3, or Level 6 qualification
- Meet the DfE Early Years Qualification Criteria

5.2 Paediatric First Aid (PFA) Requirements

- Apprentices, trainees, or newly qualified Level 2 or Level 3 staff must hold PFA certification in order to be counted in ratios
- Staff without PFA certification can work only in a supernumerary capacity

The nursery ensures:

- At least one PFA-trained person is always on site
- Ratio-eligible staff have valid, up-to-date PFA certification
- A PFA-qualified staff member accompanies all outings

6. Supervision Requirements

All children must be:

- Within sight and hearing of staff at all times
- Or within sight or hearing, depending on risk assessment and activity

This is a statutory EYFS compliance requirement for group providers.

Staff are responsible for:

- Active supervision indoors and outdoors
- Knowing where each child is at all times

- Maintaining safe ratios during transitions, toileting, outdoor play, meals, and free-flow activities

7. Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements

The nursery ensures compliance with the strengthened safeguarding and welfare requirements of the **EYFS (2025)**.

Safer Recruitment

- Two written references are obtained for all new staff
- All required suitability checks are completed before employment
- Only suitable individuals are recruited to work with children

Absence Monitoring

- Prompt follow-up is undertaken for any prolonged or unexplained absence
- Additional emergency contact details are held for every child

Safer Eating

- Active supervision is in place during meals and snack times
- Choking-prevention procedures are followed at all times
- Allergy management protocols are strictly applied

Safeguarding Training

- All staff receive regular safeguarding training and are supported to embed safeguarding practice consistently

Whistleblowing

- Clear and accessible procedures are in place for reporting unsafe or inappropriate practice

Nappy Changing and Toileting

- Children's privacy and dignity are respected while maintaining appropriate safeguarding visibility

Nutrition

- The nursery follows DfE nutrition guidance, unless there is a clearly justified reason not to do so

The nursery will:

- Keep accurate records of attendance, accidents and incidents
- Follow safer sleep, health, hygiene and medication procedures
- Ensure premises, equipment and resources are safe, suitable and clean
- Maintain records in line with GDPR requirements

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

A trained Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy DSL) is available at all times during nursery operating hours.

8. Curriculum and Learning Compliance

Learning and development provision will meet the EYFS statutory requirements for:

- The seven areas of learning
- Educational programmes
- Assessment requirements, including:
 - Progress Check at Age 2
 - Ongoing observational assessment
 - Transition reports for school-entry

The nursery will ensure teaching is:

- Play-based
- Sequential and developmentally appropriate
- Inclusive for all children including SEND
- Language rich and aligned to school curriculum intent

9. Staff Deployment and Contingency Planning

The nursery teacher/school business manager ensures:

- Ratios are checked at the start of each session, and throughout the day
- Staffing is re-allocated during absences, training, sickness, or emergencies
- Only qualified, suitable staff are counted in ratios
- Children are grouped appropriately for supervision and safety

If ratio cannot be maintained:

- Non-ratio staff may be deployed temporarily
- The group may be split between qualified staff
- Additional staff from school or agency may be used
- Admissions may be paused

Under no circumstances may ratio fall below statutory minimums.

10. Monitoring and Review

Senior Leaders will:

- Conduct regular audits of qualification, training and PFA validity
- Review staff deployment and ratio logs
- Report any compliance issues to the Headteacher
- Review this policy annually or sooner if statutory guidance changes