

Do you need to register your childcare provision with Ofsted?

The Department for Education sets the legislation on whether childcare providers must register their early years provision with Ofsted.

Ofsted registers childcare provision on the Early Years Register and Childcare Register.

Some school-based provision is exempt from registering with Ofsted: check our '[Registering and inspecting school-based provision](#)' guidance to see if this applies to you. The guidance also provides scenarios for schools offering childcare and how they would be inspected by Ofsted.

If your school does not meet these criteria, other exemptions may be available: see our '[Registrations exemptions](#)' guidance.

Unless a different exemption applies, provision for children under 2 always requires registration with Ofsted.

The [Childminders and childcare providers: register with Ofsted](#) guidance gives more information about the requirements for a school to register with Ofsted, including the [Childcare Register requirements](#).

It is your responsibility to read and understand the registration requirements. Your local authority early years team can help with any questions on whether you need to register and with applications. [Find your local council and contact them](#) if you are unsure.

