



# Focus on...

## Key Person – EYFS

### What does the EYFS say about a key person approach?

Each child must be assigned a key person. Their role is to help ensure that every child's care is tailored to meet their individual needs, to help the child become familiar with the setting, offer a settled relationship for the child and build a relationship with their parents and/or carers. They should also help families engage with more specialist support if appropriate.

In childminder settings, the key person is the childminder, or can be an assistant where appropriate.

#### Responsibilities of a key person

- Caring for and supporting the learning and development of individually named children
- Being an inclusive practitioner who knows that families and children are unique and need a personal approach
- May be directly involved in safeguarding cases for individual children
- Responsible for transitions for their key children, particularly starting at the setting and moving on from the setting but there are many and varied transitions that take place in children's lives and the key person may be involved in supporting the child
- Signpost families for help and support. This may be a special educational need or disability, family financial issues or parenting advice

#### How can I be a good key person?

- When children are new to you, take the time to observe and interact with the child so that you get to know them really well and the child connects with you too
- Make links with the child's family, find out about who lives at home with them, who are special in their lives, do they have a pet, what do they like doing at home
- Build upon the relationship with families by talking to them at drop off and pick up times about what is happening at home and share what the child does at the setting
- Share your knowledge of the child with the wider team so that if you are not there, the rest of the team know about the child

[Attachment and the role of the key person – Birth To 5 Matters](#)

