

1 minute guide: Notifications to Ofsted

In order to comply with the statutory EYFS requirements, you **'must'** inform Ofsted within 14 days about: ***'Any significant event likely to affect the suitability of the registered person or any person who cares for, or is in regular contact with, children on the premises to look after children.'***

It is advisable to inform Ofsted straight away or immediately after something has happened/changed. The worst time to inform Ofsted about any changes/significant events is during your inspection.

How do I inform Ofsted?

Notification to Ofsted must be made using the online notification form, please note, you should no longer inform them by telephone or email. Please ensure you record the date and time you have notified Ofsted to evidence that they have been informed.

<https://www.report-childcare-incident.service.gov.uk/serious-incident/childcare/>

The EYFS framework states that failure to notify Ofsted of significant events without a reasonable excuse is an offence.

What information should I share?

It is sometimes difficult to decide what information needs to be shared - if you think 'I wonder if I need to inform Ofsted?', then you probably do need to let them know.

Ofsted state that they would deem anything that may cause increased stress, worry, anxiety or hardship to fall under this category. We do not have a definitive 'you must tell Ofsted about list however we have put together a few examples, which are not outlined in the statutory guidance to help you decide what needs to be shared.

- Any safeguarding incidents involving your own child/ren
- If the police or social services are called to your house – even if it happens at the weekend.
- If there is a dispute with parents which you cannot be resolved
- If there is a dispute with neighbours for example they make a complaint about you or your provision to the Local Council, Police or Social Services
- If any of your own children's school status changes for example you are home-schooling them or they are off school for a prolonged period of time
- If a member of your family is off work for a prolonged period of time for example your partner is made redundant or is on long-term sick.
- Any external agency involvement with any family members living in the household. I.e., CAMHS.
- If you have a new baby or child in the household for example your own baby or a child through adoption or foster care
- If you are planning major changes to the house for example an extension
- Health changes for example a serious illness, you are due to have an operation, time off work for any reason or changes to medication since you did the initial medical form.
- People moving out of your house for example your partner leaving, an over 16 child leaving (not going to university where they come and go during holidays), the death of someone who has a CRB/DBS linked to your house

Further examples can be found here [Childcare: significant events to notify Ofsted about - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/childcare-significant-events-to-notify-ofsted-about)

Any administrative notifications, such as a change in opening hours or updated contact information, can be emailed to enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk