

08.4 Student Placement

Our Aim

At our setting, we value education and training, and sometimes offer placements to students who are completing relevant courses. Here's how we ensure placements are safe, supportive, and beneficial for everyone:

Purpose of Student Placements

- Students gain real-life experience in early years care and education.
- We aim to help them successfully complete their studies while showing examples of high-quality practice.

Safety & Suitability

- The setting manager ensures all students meet the “suitable person” requirements.
- For students under 17, their good character is verified, and all necessary checks are completed.
- Students never have unsupervised access to children.

Placement Arrangements

- The aim of the placement and expectations are discussed with the student's tutor before the placement starts.
- Students' needs and learning goals are agreed upon upfront.

Ratios and Competency

- Students 17+, volunteers, and apprentices 16+ may sometimes be included in staff-to-child ratios:
 - Only if they are competent, responsible, and hold a current Pediatric First Aid (PFA) qualification.
- Children's needs remain the priority, and student numbers never interfere with the care provided.

Insurance & Confidentiality

- We have public liability and employer's liability insurance covering students and volunteers.
- Students are aware of confidentiality rules and follow them at all times.

Induction & Support

- Students receive a full induction, including:
 - How sessions are managed
 - Policies and procedures, especially safeguarding, confidentiality, and health & safety
- Staff work with students' tutors to support course requirements.
- We communicate the value of qualifications and training to students.

Training Standards

- Only students engaged in bona fide early years training are accepted.
- They must have a background understanding of children's development and activities.