

2.2 Student placements

Policy statement

We recognize that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care and education we provide. As part of our commitment to quality, we offer placements to students undertaking early years qualifications and training. We also offer placements for school pupils on work experience.

We aim to provide for students on placement experiences that contribute to the successful completion of their studies and that provide examples of quality practice in early years care and education.

Procedures

- We require students on qualification courses to meet the Suitable Person requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and have a satisfactory enhanced DBS check with barred list check(s).
- We require students in our setting to have a sufficient understanding and use of English to contribute to the well-being of children in our care.
- We require schools, colleges or universities placing students under the age of 17 years to vouch for their good character.
- We always supervise students under the age of 17 years and do not allow them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Students undertaking qualification courses who are placed in our setting on a short-term basis are not counted in our staffing ratios.
- Students (aged 17 and over) and apprentices (aged 16 and over) may be considered to be counted
 in the ratios if our manager deems them to be suitably qualified and experienced.

- We take out employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance, which covers both students and voluntary helpers.
- We require students to abide by our Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy.
- We co-operate with students' tutors in order to help students to fulfil the requirements of their course of study.
- We provide students, at the first session of their placement, with a short induction on how our setting is managed, how our sessions are organized and our policies and procedures.
- We communicate a positive message to students about the value of qualifications and training.
- We make the needs of the children paramount by not admitting students in numbers that hinder the essential work of the setting.
- We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years training,
 which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities.

This policy was adopted by:	Theydon Bois Preschool Group
Date:	January 2024
Signed on behalf of provider:	Thele,
Name of signatory:	James Mellor
Role of signatory:	Committee member
Date to be reviewed:	January 2025