

Teaching and Learning

What makes your setting unique?



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Tell us how your curriculum is unique to you?

What do you want children to have learned by the time they leave your setting for school?

- sound familiar?

These are all common questions we are hearing in the early years following the EYFS reforms in 2021. Whilst some terminology may have changed, these questions are not all that new!

With a renewed focus on having a clear and well-established curriculum that is unique to you as a setting, it may be time to revisit your settings driving force. Do staff have a shared vision of what you stand for as a provider? What you hope to achieve and how you actively achieve this?

Task

Let's look at things with fresh eyes.

You're a potential parent visiting your setting with your child, considering whether or not you want to register for a place.

- What do you see when you look around the environment?
- What resources are available to your child?
- Can staff explain what they will do to support your child to settle in?
- Do staff talk to you about their qualifications and experience that will enable them to support your child's learning and development?
- Do staff seem motivated and enthusiastic about their work?
- What is different about this setting to the other settings you have visited?
- Do they make use of their local community?
- Have they shared how they will work closely with you and others to support your child's development?
- Do staff have a good understanding of child development, and high expectations that assure you that they will challenge your child to reach their full potential?

Consider how the above points would be answered.

Now revisit the questions at the beginning of the card – how would you now answer them?

Refer to the 7 Key Features of Effective Practice - Curriculum Q card for more information.