



Department  
for Education

# **Early Years Foundation Stage: consultation on safeguarding requirements**

22 April 2024 – 17 June 2024

# Introduction



## About the consultation

- The EYFS safeguarding consultation is open for 8 weeks from Monday 22 April to Monday 17 June 2024.
- You can respond to the consultation [here](#).
- There are 32 questions. We have included free text space to give an opportunity to provide suggestions of other safeguarding changes or any further comments.
- We want to hear from as many people and organisations as possible so we can gather a broad range of views to help the Government reach well-informed and fair decisions.
- We launched a separate EYFS consultation on 22 April to seek views on the proposed experienced-based route for practitioners. This is open until 20 May You can respond to this consultation [here](#).



# Proposals within the consultation

The consultation proposals include:

- Amendments to ensure **safer recruitment** including new requirements to obtain references and requiring safeguarding policies to include procedures to follow to ensure recruitment of suitable individuals.
- Creation of new requirements for following up if a **child is absent** for a prolonged period of time and amendments to ensure providers hold additional emergency contact details.
- Creation of a **safeguarding training** criteria annex and a requirement for safeguarding policies to include details of how safeguarding training is delivered and how practitioners are supported to put it into place.
- Amendments to clarify that early years students and trainees are required to have **paediatric first aid (PFA) training**.
- Creation of new requirements to ensure **safer eating**.
- Amendments to ensure **children's privacy** when changing nappies and toileting is considered and balanced with safeguarding need.

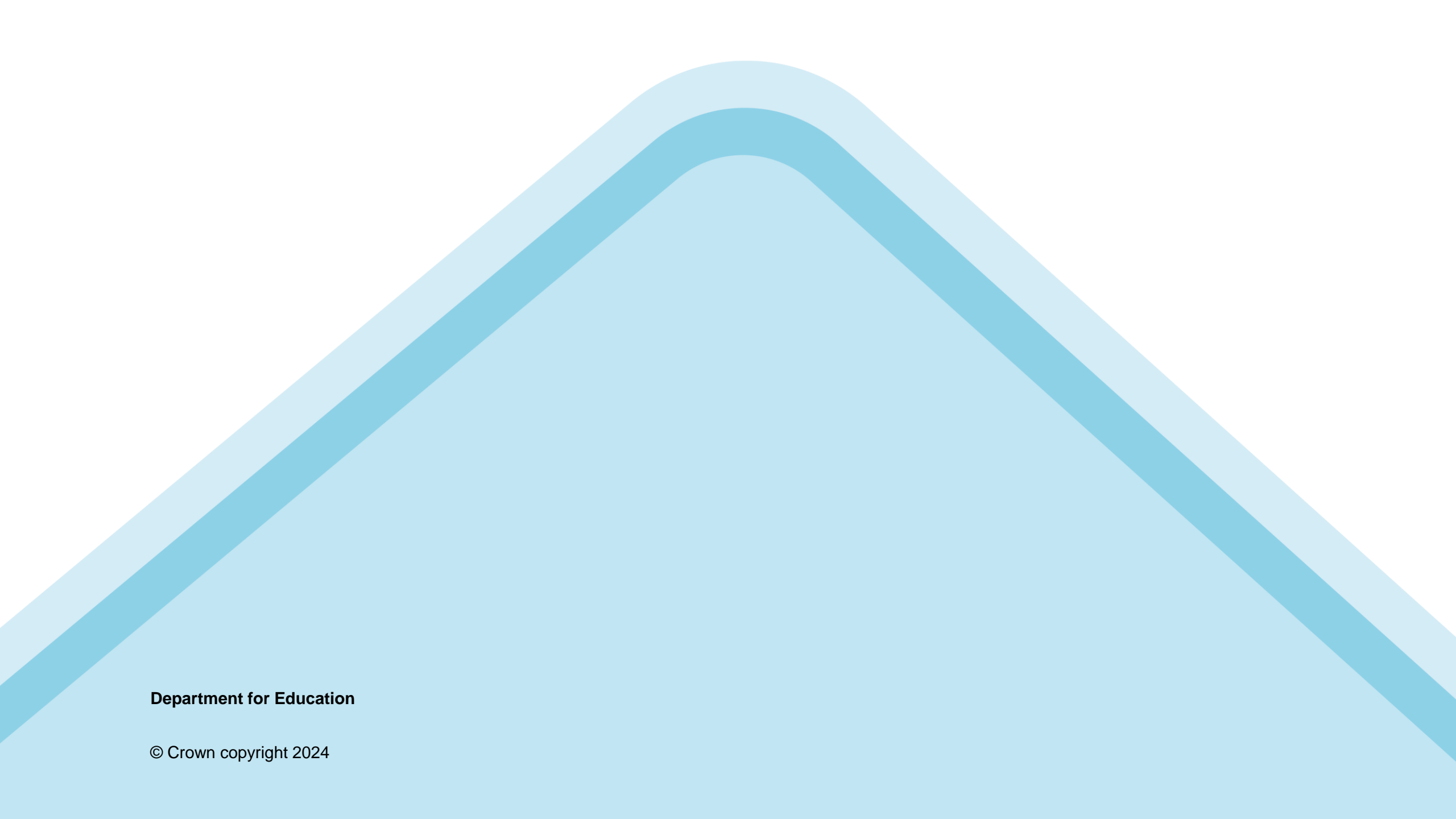


## Next steps

After the consultation closes on **17 June 2024** we will read and analyse all of the responses to help us to build the final package of changes to the EYFS safeguarding requirements.

We intend to publish the consultation response in **Autumn 2024**.

We will work closely with the sector to ensure they understand the changes being made and how they can best implement them ahead of the changes coming into force.



**Department for Education**

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