

## e-Quality Counts

e-Quality Counts is made up of 15 sections. Sections 1 to 11 are mandatory and all settings undertaking e-Quality Counts must complete these sections. Sections 12 to 15 will only apply if the setting is offering that particular aspect of service. If for example settings do work with babies then section 12 becomes mandatory.

### **Section 1 - Management**

Management underpins the holistic quality improvement journey and strategies to maintain and improve outcomes for children. This section clearly links critical evaluation of the ethos of the setting, promotes development of the values and principles of the setting and will enable the organisation to adopt high quality. This section enables settings to consider and develop a defined vision and a clear mission which is communicated throughout the organisation. The section also promotes awareness of new developments in practice, resource planning and management and professional responsibilities.

### **Section 2 - Staff**

High quality provision is underpinned by an effective and motivated staff team. This section of e-Quality Counts enables the organisation to review its provision of staff training, development and support. It explores human resources policies and procedures and promotes best practice. It focuses on building skills and motivation in the setting and highlights the importance of morale, low staff turnover and teams. The section builds quality indicators by promoting CPD, supervision, review and mentoring.

### **Section 3 - Observation & reflection to inform practice**

This section underpins analysis of quality provision and promotes critical evaluation of services and delivery and encourages the whole team to regularly monitor and review practice to enable them to improve and develop to meet the ever changing needs of the children, families, parents, staff and partners.

### **Section 4 - Care learning and development**

This section promotes all aspects of quality provision in relation to children care, learning and development. It aims to enhance the provision of work together to meet these needs and to provide a wealth of experiences from which children can learn. The section clearly promotes effective practice and high quality delivery and promotes integrated working.

### **Section 5 - Environment**

This section stimulates review of the engaging environment children have to play, explore and learn. It promotes reflection and analysis and highlights areas of good practice.

### **Section 6 - Visits and visitors**

Visits and visitors enrich experiences that settings provide for children in their care and this section explores how this can be done and ensures safety is maximised whilst learning is extended.

### **Section 7 - Equality and inclusion**

Equality and inclusion is fundamental to developing quality provision, this section covers inclusion, equality, diversity and the essential role of multi agency working.

### **Section 8 - Safeguarding children**

Settings have a statutory duty to safeguard children and promote welfare, this section provides a reflective tool to analyse the effectiveness of policies, procedures and practices and make improvements in relation to safeguarding arrangements.

### **Section 9 - Partnership with parents**

Section nine explores best practice and review of partnership working with parents. Benchmarking can be done with this section and ideas for good practice are included.

### **Section 10 - nutrition, serving of food and oral health**

Setting staff are in an ideal position to have a positive influence on the nutrition of young children and also on developing the knowledge and attitudes children and their parents have towards food and healthy eating. This section promotes review and aims to enhance provision in this area.

### **Section 11 - Health and safety**

Effective health and safety practices are the foundation for quality provision. This section of e-Quality Counts underpins legislative and statutory frameworks and links to quality practice guidance and promotes analysis of current practices, policies and procedures to enable settings to fulfil these requirements.

### **Optional Section 12 - Babies**

This section links closely with section 4 – Care, Learning and Development however has a clear focus on the specific needs of babies under 2 years.

### **Optional Section 13 - School escort service**

Settings need to consider and ensure children's welfare and safety when providing an escort service for children and young people. This section links clearly with Section 2 Staff, Section 11 Health & Safety and Section 14 Out of School Care within the scheme

### **Optional Section 14 - Out of school care**

This section covers the needs of children over the age of 5 years. The values of play work must be embedded and staff should work closely with children and their families to meet the children's needs and promote their welfare.

### **Optional Section 15 - Students**

Structured work based learning is an excellent opportunity for settings to develop students working practices and enable them to feedback to learning providers where training provision does not meet the requirements of current workforce demands. This section promotes review and development to meet the needs of the organisation and the student.

If you would like further information of e-Quality Counts or you are interested in joining our scheme contact the team on 01484 4070 63 alternatively visit our website [www.ndna.org.uk](http://www.ndna.org.uk)