

Student Placement Policy

Statement of intent

YMCA Brunel Group welcomes the chance to encourage training and development and recognises that qualifications and training make an important contribution to the quality of the care, teaching and learning provided by childcare settings and that this is also an opportunity to reflect and revise our own practices. As part of our commitment to quality, we offer placements to students undertaking early year's qualifications and training, including those studying for the BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Children's Care, Learning & Development, and Early Years Foundation Degree, BA Hon in Childcare and Education and Early Years Teacher Status.

Aim

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

Methods

- We require students to meet the 'suitable person' requirements of Ofsted, and we will discuss this with them.
- We require schools/colleges placing students under the age of 17 years with the setting to vouch for their good character.
- We always supervise students and do not allow them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Students who are placed in our setting on a short-term basis are not counted in our staffing ratios. However, students and volunteers (aged over 17) who are on long-term placements may be included in ratios when we are satisfied that they are competent and responsible.
- We have employers' liability insurance and public liability insurance, which covers both trainees and voluntary helpers.
- We require students to keep to our confidentiality policy and always behave professionally.
- Students are required to respect our Electronic Devices and IT policy, our staff behaviour policy and our Social Networking Policy.
- We require students to follow the dress code stated in the Staff Policy for induction and appearance.
- We provide students, at the first session of their placement, with an induction on Health and Safety, our child protection and safeguarding policy and procedure how our setting is managed, how our sessions are organised and our other policies and procedures.
- We provide students with access to a member of staff who will act as their mentor. The person designated as student mentor is usually named in each setting.
- We all communicate a positive message to students about the value of qualifications and training.
- We encourage students to contribute fully to the childcare setting routine and to experience working with all age ranges of children in our settings.
- We ensure that trainees and students placed with us are engaged in bona fide early years or childcare training, which provides the necessary background understanding of children's development and activities, which are appropriate to the developmental age of children in our care.

- If a student behaves inappropriately, we will discuss this with their school, university or college supervisor immediately and will follow our child protections and safeguarding children policy and procedure.
- We expect students to join in and to be warm and enthusiastic about their work.
- Students should bring suitable clothing and footwear for outside play.

Signed on behalf of YMCA Brunel Group
(original signed copy held at registered office)



Mike Fairbeard

Role of Signatory

Chief Executive

Date of Review of Policy

January 2027

Approved by trustees

31st January 2026

