



**East Mids**

**Ofsted Big  
Conversation**

**28<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**#EMOBC**

# Agenda

**9:45**

Review of Ofsted Big Conversation so far

**10:00**

Ofsted Presentation

**11:15**

Comfort break

**11:30**

OBC Presentation

**12:00**

Question & answer session

**13:00**

Close



# Housekeeping

**Fire assembly**

**Toilets**

**Timings**

**Comfort break**





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# Welcome!

Here from Ofsted:

Chris Russell – Regional Director, East Midlands

David Carter – Senior HMI – Early Years & Schools, East Midlands

Joanne Smith – HMI – Early Years, East Midlands

Kathryn Bell – Early Years Senior Officer, East Midlands



# Welcome!

Here from OBC:

Andrew Clifford, Director, Naturally Outdoors / BEE

Kala Patel, Chief Exec, Kiddycare Nurseries

Alison Pickering, Owner, Daisies Day Nurseries

Helen Ruff, Service Manager, Adapt Childcare Training

Tracie Dodd, Service Manager, Adapt Childcare Training

## Other Steering Group Members:

Nicola Wood, Owner, Grosvenor House Day Nursery & Pre School

Michelle Harris, Owner, Rhyme Time & Woodleys Nursery Group

Sam Evans, Owner, Little Learners Nursery



# Background to Ofsted Big Conversation

Started on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2013 on LinkedIn with a simple question posed by June O'Sullivan (Chief Executive at London Early Years Foundation)

***“What is happening with Ofsted? Are you seeing a spate of inspections triggered by “anonymous” complaints? Are the outcomes leading to more downgrades?”***



## Since then...

9 Regional grassroots, Voluntary Steering groups formed

All regions engaged with Ofsted Regional directors

### Significant progress made

- Brought forward inspection regime abandoned
- Revisions to Ofsted complaints procedure
- Real engagement with Ofsted
- Re-training of inspectors by Ofsted
- Ofsted to bring EY Inspections in-house April 2017





# National Agenda of the Ofsted Big Conversation

- Ofsted complaint process needs to be fit for purpose
- Ensuring consistent and high quality inspections
- EY in settings & schools to be inspected on level playing field
- Addressing inspectors conflicts of interest
- More focus on Childminder issues
- Challenge the nonsense

## Watchlist

- 30 month registration visits
- EY Pupil Premium
- British values



# Ofsted Big Conversation – A Partnership

- Main achievement is real and effective engagement with Ofsted.
- A mutual respect that we both want what it is best for children.
- Significant time devoted to this engagement including termly meetings with Ofsted and representation on the Stage 3 scrutiny/complaints panels.
- Steering Group still being developed in East Midlands – we need specific reps from Derbyshire, Lincolnshire & further representation of Childminders & OOSC's.



# Following the OBC...

Website [TheBigOfstedConversation.com](http://TheBigOfstedConversation.com)

Twitter [@OfstedBC](https://twitter.com/OfstedBC) [#OfstedBigConversation](https://twitter.com/OfstedBC)

Today – use [#EMobc](https://twitter.com/OfstedBC)

Facebook [OfstedBigConversation](https://www.facebook.com/OfstedBigConversation)





David Carter  
Senior HMI East Midlands  
Presentation



Joanne Smith  
HMI East Midlands

Presentation



**Comfort break!**



**Using your  
half day  
notice of  
inspection**



## Guidance

### Early years inspection handbook from September 2015

From: Ofsted  
First published: 15 June 2015  
Last updated: 28 August 2015, see all updates  
Part of: Ofsted inspections of early years providers and Early years and childcare inspections: resources for inspectors and other organisations

Guidance for inspecting early years providers under the common inspection framework from September 2015.

## Documents



### [Early years inspection handbook from September 2015](#)

MS Word Document, 784KB

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology.  
[Request a different format.](#)



### [Early years inspection handbook from September 2015](#)

PDF, 512KB, 45 pages

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology.  
[Request a different format.](#)

## Detail

This handbook describes the main activities inspectors undertake and the judgements inspectors will make when inspecting early years providers under the 'Common inspection framework: education, skills and early years'.

Published:  
**15 June 2015**

Updated:  
**28 August 2015**  
+ full page history

From:  
**Ofsted**

Part of:  
**Ofsted inspections of early years providers**  
**Early years and childcare inspections: resources for inspectors and other organisations**





# Half day notice.....

*Normally* receive a call at or just after midday on the working day before the start of the inspection

If all reasonable steps have been taken to make contact ..... the inspector has not been able to speak to anyone.....continue the following day without notice

**Ofsted may conduct inspections without notice. This normally, but not exclusively, happens when inspections are prioritised because of concerns that have been expressed about the setting**



# Half day notice.....

Childminders... summer play schemes, will usually receive a call no more than five days before the inspection to check days operating and if children on roll and present. The inspector must not specify the date of the inspection but should indicate the time of day by when the inspection will start. This will allow the childminder to leave the house if the inspector has not arrived by that time

The telephone call is the first opportunity to initiate a professional relationship between the inspector and the provider or their representative. It should be short and focused on practical issues

Inspectors should not use this conversation to probe or start inspecting



# Half day notice.....

What do I do when the call comes?

Do I tell my team?

What happens if someone else in my team takes the call?

How do we best use the time available?



## Using the time wisely:-

- key documents ready and available (not fishing for them on the day)
- set out suitable space and facilities for inspector
- review current planning / lines of interest – consider joint observation – discuss with practitioner involved
- reviewing diary – is there anything planned in that may affect your day – settling in visits, show rounds, supervision, staff holidays / absence / shift patterns
- the advice is the same for childminders and nurseries / pre-schools – use the time to make sure your evidence folder is up-to-date, inform parents that an inspector is coming and ask them for comments, collect yourself and put everything out you want your inspector to see



# Suggested don't do:-

- have a meltdown
- run around making last minute changes – e.g. displays, planning, room environments,
- implement new documents or try to finish your SEF.
- swap or draft in a different team or give the person(s) you are worried about speaking to Ofsted the day off!
- coach your teams on what to say!
- high-five the inspector on arrival and thank them for their call to get things sorted (wink wink)



# Half day notice...

## Case Study



Grosvenor House

Day Nursery & Pre-school



# Half day notice...

With us being a new setting we knew that an inspection would be scheduled and whilst we prepared for this using the Inspection handbook we focused greatly on ensuring our staff team felt good about themselves and confident in their role. We used peer observations to support our teaching and learning and this helped us identify both what we were doing well, as well as identifying gaps and missed opportunities which we became comfortable sharing and talking about. We shared these openly with the inspector and used the Peer Observation documentation to complete the joint observation.



# Half day notice...

We used the check list in the Inspection Handbook to prepare for the visit from the on-set of opening the nursery. This helped us get everything in order and prepare our documentation in a way whereby the inspector could look through at any time. However most importantly we wanted it to work for us and it wasn't just seen as a tick box exercise but a live working system.





# Half day notice...

When I spoke to the inspector prior to her visit, I wanted to make her feel comfortable and welcome. It was important to us that she was made to feel part of our day. Inviting her to join the children for lunch, asking for the correct spelling of her name to ensure we had her name badge prepared and of course informing our families of her visit. We really encouraged our parents to either come in and visit during the day or leave a message on the phone system she provided.



# Half day notice...

We ensured the office had a designated area for her to look through documentation (we displayed all of the files she had asked to see the night before), meet with the leadership team and speak with parents confidentially. This also gave us opportunities to share our journey with her, ask questions and take time to look through some of the information together.



# Half day notice...

When we briefed the team that our inspection was going to take place our approach was very much “Be yourself, be proud of all that you do and be honest. Share your development plans, talk about challenges faced and your personal CPD”.



Grosvenor House

Day Nursery & Pre-school



# Half day notice.....

- Discuss the half day notice with your team
  - Communicate your decision
- You know your own setting, do what you feel is right!
  - Keep to your plan



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
CARRY  
ON**

Thank you!





# Open Floor – Q&A

Chance for questions

A large, stylized graphic of a starburst or snowflake shape, composed of several smaller, overlapping starburst elements in shades of purple and pink, centered on the page.

**THANKYOU**

Next Meeting – Summer Term  
Date tbc - Northamptonshire